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BIRTHS. On December 2, 1905, at Amoy, to Dr. and Mrs. C. E. BLAIR, London Mission, Tingchow, On December 17, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife'

of J. S. ABRAHAM, of a daughter. MARRIAGE. On December 12, 1908, at Shanghai, by

Rev. A. J. Walker, M.A., JOHN WILLIAM BURTWELL, of London, to ANNIE CORBETT, of London.

On December 16, 1908, at Shanghai, EGAS AUGUSTO, aged one year and four months, beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Lobes.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT. The Superioress and Sisters of the Italian Convent desire to express their GRATEFUL THANKS to their NUMEROUS FRIENDS for their expressions of sympathy with the Convent in the irreparable loss it recently sustained by the death of Sister MARIA ALLANSON.

Unic Mongkong Gelegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1908.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE:

(19th December.)

When an individual blatantly declares that he is a cosmopolitan, a citizen of the world, the average man is apt to regard him with a certain amount of suspicion, for it is not in the nature of things - that people should inferentially disown their nationality. But according to the Chief Justice, who still retains his happy knack of introducing extraneous questions into his judgments, very much after the fashion of the writer who introduces an anecdote to point and adorn a dreary dissertation on metaphysics, there may be in Hongkong residents who, so far as nationality inherited or acquired is concerned, are possessed of neither the one nor the other. There are also residents who are cursed with the possession of a double nationality, which is the way of the world all over. One man has more than enough and another has nothing whatever. As the reader may surmise, this interesting subject arose in connection with a banksuplcy, suit, involving the elemal question of domicile, with which, fortunately, we have pothing in do. The debtor had apparently claimed that he was a native of Hongkong and consequently a British subject, In order to substantiate this claim he submitted a

晓三初月二十年四十三緒光 certificate bearing the signature of Sir George | himself to be a British subject, producing Bowen, who was then Governor of Hong- his birth certificate in proof of his claim. tificate was given under the seal of the Colony two affidavits of birth His Excellency was satisfied that the debtor in the action now. ficate to that effect. Proud in his pos-The Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., produces the official document which was. signed, scaled and delivered in 1884 and his creditors are perfectly content with it, the very scal probably frightening them into submission. The debtor is a British subject and, as they say in America, "that's | there are others who are burdened with an all there is to it." But when the debtor comes into Court a surprise awaits him. Not only does the judge view the document with suspicion, and cavil at the simplicity of a former Governor who trusted "unfortunate victims of double nationality" to the affidavits of two witnesses, and regard, is the Chief Justice's expression. Conversely with something akin to scorn the im- there are in all probability Chinese who are primatur of the seal, but he actually holds of no nationality whatever. What it all that the certificate of birth is worthless. It amounts to the reader is at liberty to figure is no value whatever in an linglish port for out for himself. It should prove a pleasant any legal purpose. It is a mere trumpery | Sunday afternoon pastime, slip of waste paper, good enough for children to admire and preserve but absurd as evidence in a court of justice. By, whom were the affidavits made anyway?. Besides, even if the certificate was regular in respect to the sworn testimony, it should have been issued by the Registrar-General. The Chit Justice did not go the length of declaring that because the Governor exercised the functions of Registrar-General the certificate was neces sarily invalidated, but that would appear to be a fair presumption, although it is difficult to understand why a document signed, seal ed and certified by the chief authority of the Colony from whom all power radiatesthe Chief Justice being probably the only

official who is not directly under the control of the Governor-should be of less value than one issued by a subordinate. But ever if the Registrar General had exercised the functions of his office in granting a certificate of birth, the Chief Justice did not think that even then the entries in his registers would be conclusive evidence of the facts. would have been interesting to learn what further proof His Honour does expect to receive when questions as to the hirthplace of a suitor do crop up in Court The Chief Justice complains that, all the certificate contained was an expression of the Governor's belief that the debtor was born in Hongkong. Was it to be expected that Sir George Bowen should declare positively

that of his own knowledge the Chinaman did first oben his eyes and squall vociferously on British soil? We should not envy the position of any Governor or even any Registrar-General whose functions included attendance on the delicate occasions when children are ushered into this wear world. As we have endeavoured to show, His Honour viewed the birth certificate bearing the Governor's sign-manual as valueless. What would constitute proof of birth in the Colony in the event of a question of identity being raised? The other day a gentleman named Athert Kirby Fairfax, a native of the United States, submitted a claim to the House of Lords claiming "the title, honour and dignity of Lord Fairfax of Cameton in the peerage of Scotland." The Lord Chancellor and three Law Lords, together with other peers, heard the claim. Counsel for the claimant stated that nearly the whole: family papers that would have been useful in establishing the claim had been lost or destroyed during the American Civil War. In those circumstances, it was necessary to have recourse to secondary evidence, and

the only record which could be produced

was the Fairfax family Bible. Apparently

graph of a tombstone and some family letters,

but on the motion of the Lord Chancellor

the right of the claimant to the pecrage was

held to have been established, and I ord

Fairfax takes rank with the Scottish nobles.

Now, would the simple fact that a certain entry appeared in a family Bible be accepted as conclusive evidence in favour of a suitor in Hongkong? If the alleged son of this Chinese debtor had to submit proof of his father's birth-place in order to secure an inheritance would a family record suffice? Apparently not, if all that could be produced was a certificate aigned by the Governor and stamped with the seal of the Colony. He would be told to hunt up the gentlemen who swore to the affidavits and after have ling resurrected the gentlemen he would have the satisfaction of learning that an official document issued in Hongkong is of no legal value in a Hongkong court of justice. Then again, a Chinaman

who is a natural born subject of King Edward, might fancy that he would securea greater degree of attention and protection if having claimed and received his papers from the Governor of the Colony he procooded to Salgon, we will say, and asserted

kong, and dated 21st July, 1884. That cer- That, according to the Chief Justice, shows the danger of issuing such certificates. One and was to the effect that having examined never knows what a foreigner will do and as His Honour very properly said these certifi-| cates were sometimes vised by foreign conbefore the Court was born in the Colony suls for use in foreign ports. And he added, and therefore that he believed him to be a .. It may well be that, being under the British subject. So far it is all plain sailing. | seal of the Colony, they would receive a larger A Chinaman claims that he was born in the measure of credence so far as the fact of Colony; two others swear that to their birth is concerned than they are entitled to. certain knowledge the statement is correct; It is deplorable to imagine that a document, the Governor, seeing no reason to doubt the signed by the highest authority in the fact and acting under permissive instructions | Colony, but which is nevertheless utterly from the Secretary of State set forth in a worthless in Hongkong, should actually imdespatch dated August, 1862, grants the pose upon foreigners. What is the world application that the claimant be recognised coming to? Of course, it should be reas a British subject and signs a certi- membered that this was the first time the learned Chief Justice had ever seen such a session of the parchment, which bears certificate of birth, but his animadversions the formidable seal of the Colony on its character should be well digested by the Chinaman deposits it in his family Governors and Registrars-General before archives and probably forgets all about it. they again play ducks and drakes with offi-

Four-and-twenty years after having, to the cial papers, affidavits and colonial seals. satisfaction of the head of the Government | Still it is curious that if these certificates are of the Colony, shown his title to be regard- valueless in Hongkong the Home Governed as a British subject, the owner of the ment continues to put a certain amount of certificate finds himself in financial difficul- faith in them, for when the subject of ties and for certain reasons is required to engaging Chinese seamen in British ports give proof of his nationality. Naturally he | was on the tapis some time ago it was dislinctly laid down that the Government had no power to interfere with those Chinese hands who had been born in Hongkong or Singapore. We started by observing that while some people disclaim any nationality

> extra supply. There are apparently in Hongkong recipients of certificates declaring them to be British subjects who are at the same time subjects of the Son of Heaven-

TWO SIDES OF THE OURSTION

While questions affecting the nationality and domicile of our Chinese neighbours are on-the carpet, it may not be inappropriate relieve what in other circumstances would to compare the views of two Britishers in different spheres of life respecting Chinese inclinations. In the early part of this week to examine and report on the subject. An the Chief Justice of Hongkong, discussing a American senator has written to Mr. Mosematter of domicile, maintained that there ton Frewen giving his views on silver values, was hardly a hundred pukka Chinese domi- and the latter has passed on the communication giled in Hongkong. In another judg- cation to the various Chambers of Comment delivered clater His Honour went werce in the Fast East for their views, further and said that in his belief: soliciting a statement which could be sub-"hardly any Chinaman who is merely a trader here ever tears himself away root and the members of the Commission do not probranch from his family village in China which | pose to conclude their labours until 1970. is what is required to establish a domicile in and consequently the report need not be this Colony: the whole idea of a permanent establishment in Hongkong with a fixed for all those who have any opinion one way determination never to return to the ances" or the other to set out their views. I tral village otherwise than as a visitor seems I would be decidedly unfortunate if the Far a Chinaman." Now we will submit the opinion of a representative Far. Eastern. varied experiences of Chinese in the Straits Settlements. Speaking at the annual Straits: dinner, held in London in November last. Mr. Drew referred to the amicable relations existing between the British mercia he can procure in England as to prices and ese come to us as labourers, they stay with sents to the Commission a statement as to there were no other papers except the photo-

find the difference greewhelming.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE CURRENCY OUBSTION.

bimetallism was the chief subject of debate

in political circles both in the United King-

dom and the United States, Mr. Ballour, in

his alry, nonchalant way, observed that he

know as much about bimetallism as the child

unborn: The Shavian remark attracted

(21st December.) Some years ago when the next question of

attention, especially at a time when every other statesman was grappling and wreatling with the intricacies of a subject which concerns the world at large, but the underlying suggestion that the question was subject to no ordered calculations and could not be determined by any arbitrary laws was fully admitted except by the most rabid exponents of opposite views. All that any legislator could hope to achieve was the adoption of measures which would restrain the extent of silver fluctuations and, as it were, standardise the relation between silver and gold: How long this question has been under review it. would be difficult to say, but the fact stands that the vagaries of silver are just as exasperating and incomprehensible and, what is worse, ungovernable by simple methods of legislation as they were when Mr. Bryan first made bimetallism the principal plank in his election platform. Every nation which exercises a commanding power in the disposition of the world's wealth has engaged financial experts to discover a solution of the problem but so far without avail. The importance of the question to-day lies in the growing commercial power of China, combined with the need of American merchants to find an outlet for their superfluous wares in Asia. It is recognised that the exigencies of trade require the contraction of the limits of variation to which silver is liable, but the difficulty it to find the soil which will bear the erection of those barriers. No metal is so sensitive as silver, and from all that can, be seen no power is capable of definitely fixing its intrinsic value in countries such as China and India which are dependent to a great extent on natural causes for their prosperity. Nevertheless, the United States Government has again decided to see what can be done, to be deemed an intolerable situation and a Monetary Commission has been appointed mitted to the Washington Commission. As expected before 1912, there is ample time to me inconsistent with the normal ideas of | Eastern point of view was inadequately represented, because the real storm centre has shifted from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from merchant, Mr. A. H. Drew, who has had a | the Western to the Eastern hemisphere. The trouble is, of course, that no two people are reconciled even on the main heads of the problem. Apparently Mr. Frewen has offered to submit to the Commission "the latest returns ants, and the Chinese traders, who had a ges in the Orient." Mr. Frewen is cercome as immigrant coolies to the Straits | fainly endowed with more than the usual Settlements. He remarked: "The Chin- | quantum of courage and temerity if he preus as traders, many of them, and many of | prices and wages in the Far East founded our most respected citizens are the sons and on facts collected in England. No doubt grandsons of the original settlers, and we there are many importers and exporters in find among these men our most wealthy ship. | the old country who take the trouble to owners and merchants. Those of the Chin- understand the conditions prevailing in the ese race born in the Colony are as proud of | Oriental labour market, but we are afraid their nationality as anyone in this room, and the number must be comparatively small, they are even more loyal to the Colony than | The difficulty experienced by the average men of British birth, for when they have Britisher is to get away from the gold-backmade their competency they are willing I ground and to set up silver as the intermeto spend the rest of their days in the place | diary of barter. Indeed, it might be said where they have found so much prosperity." that it is hardly possible to realise all the That certainly conflicts with the view held by complexities of the subject until one has the Chief Justice. Yet Mr. Drew was speak- lived in silver countries and attempted ing of what he has learned from personal to make both ends meet on a white contact with the Chinese and to clinch mat- currency. The very people who should know ters he spoke of the continued immigration isomething about the effects of an abnormal of Chinese to the Straits. If the Chinese did demand for silver in China, or a famine in not desire to settle down in the Straits, India are often the last to see why their if they had no regard for the British flag, if | pockets should be concerned. The curious they found themselves badly treated, they point from the standpoint of Westerners, is might long for the delights of China, and that when silver is high exporters in the dissuade their friends from emigrating to United Kingdom and America are inun-British territory, but when they have acquired | dated with orders from the Orient, whereas, a competency and remember the "squeeze when silver is low a stimulus is given to the pidgin" to which they would be subjected exports of Asis, and Western products are by mandarinate cupidity should they re- comparatively neglected. It is the undoubtturn to China and compare the conditions | ed object of the American senator to enwith those existing in their native villages, hance the value of the white metal for self-preservation instincts of the Chinese they adopt the wisest course and decide to several reasons. First, we will say, to foster temainwhere they are. They do more, they in- I trade in the Occident; second, to restrain vite their compatriots to follow their example | the energies of Chinese producers; and, sort of hero. At least he would have been and seek their fortunes on the hospitable third, to attain that, haleyon state when canonised if his record had been a trifle les shores of the British Empire. Mr. Drew manufacturers can guage their probable flamboyant. What lends interest to the in pointing out this fact remarked: "You outlays with some exactitude shead of their tale is the fact that the schemer declares will, probably, be surprised to find that in | dealings. The American writer puts it himself to be a native of Hongkong. But, it the present depressed condition of the Col- clearly when he says; "If silver prices may be stated at once, that he left the ony, and although for four months of this and wages do not rise, and gold prices Colony long before he arrived at the years year quarantine regulations were in force and wages do rise, it is quite clear that of discretion, so that he lost all the relining which seriously affected the immigration, owing to the pressure of Asiatic exports, in- influences, high-minded principles, and love during the last eight months, we have had dustry after industry now employing white of rectitude which are to be found in those 400 Chinamen landing in Singapore every working men must close down to be re- who have lived in this Colony for a few day, and in the times of prosperity we have placed in the world's economy by mills and years. He departed from Hongkong when had as many as 600." We wonder how factories manned with yellow labour in Asia; "a mere boy,". The Jesuits are believed to many of these immigrants retain their domi- in short the labour cost of what Asia manu- say that if they have charge of a boy during, way eventually restored to the Chinese and its. cile in their native villages, and hold a fixed. factures for export has been already cut in the first six years of his life they can mould his determination to return and settle down in half, by the reduction in the gold price of character to any form they desire. Harry their ancestral homes when they have won silver. Possibly the interests of the people of S. Reardon, allas Spencer, allas Taylor, their way to success? Not many, if all re- India are subserved by these low exchanges | alias half a dozen other names, must ports be true, despite the assertion of His with closed mints; certainly the industries have left the Colony before the six years Honour the Chief Justice of Hongkong. It of China where no mints are closed are were up, but he still remembered his assomay be said that the conditions in Hong- being stimulated by low exchanges, and ciation with the Chinese in his early days. kong are altogether different from those in alterdy China has commenced to mand According to the Call, Harry for several Singapore. It may be so I not many people facture steel, but that a great civilized Gov | weeks posed as an official Chinese interpreeroment should be making a profit as to day ter of the New York course; but finding that

limited legal tender to three hundred mil- ment Inspector of Chinese in Kanasa City. lion of its citizens; that the currency of India From the data in possession of the police it should be manipulated as to-day by a few appears that Harry is an ex-convict! having officials, whose purchases or non-purchases of served terms in at least two prisons. His silver bullion elevate or depress all the world's picture has been published in all the exchanges in China-this is so opposed to Chinese papers of New York, Chicago must now venture to press the point further." to all Chinamen to look out for him. From that it will be seen that the whole aim | That he is a man of undoubted intelligence and object of the senator is to defeat Asiatic | and cunning is shown from his record, which activities. He does not take into considera- reads like a chapter from a yellow-backed tion the fact that if the people of China find novel. According to his own statement, says t impossible to compete with American an American writer who probably has the exporters and their producing power is dimi- gift of imagination, Harry was born in Hongnished they are necessarily unable to pur- kong, his father being American and his chase the surplus stock of America imported mother Portuguese. He went to San into China. The importing ability of China Francisco when a mere boy and since that has to be balanced against her exports and time, if information in possession of the it is not enough to say that if the authorities is to be believed, he has devoted price of silver bullion were raised and the most of his time to duping and fleecing rates of exchange raised. Asia would make | Chinamen in various part of the country. It unlimited purchases from those countries has been his method to represent himself where the value of gold was enhanced and as a Chinese Government Inspector and wages were advancing... Nor is it sufficient to sell the more ignorant class of celestials to declare that the formation of immense "chock tee," or Chinese certificates of gold reserves in the great financial centres residence, which they are required by would neutralise the effects of bad seasons, law to have and the absence of which droughts, floods, famines, seditions, etc.. If makes, them subject to deportation. From his plan of building up gold reserves, known his knowledge of these men and his as the Goschen plan, were adopted, says the own alleged connection, in many instances senator, "by one, two or three nations of the in smuggling them into the United States, first rank it would go far to settle both the it has been his method to go to them and silver question and the gold question, at threaten them with immediate arrest unless least for a generation to come. But here they paid him a certain price for his silence we are again met with the Indian difficulty. and his worthless certificate. In this way Our purchases of silver to secure the Gos- it is estimated that he has fleeced Chinaprice of silver to eighty-six cent per ounce of thousands of dollars, his price being (43 pence). At that point the Government gauged in every case by what he estiof India might decide to melt up and sell mated the victim was able to pay. It rupees; that is to say at 86 cents per ounce is also believed, that he was connected the bullion value of the rupee would equal with the murder of a wealthy Chinese merits present exchange value (16 pence) so | chant, named Wong Chee Lock, in Chicago. that in the deliberations of our Commission | At all events, Harry Reardon, etc., is not approve the Goschen plan, with or without | dust for some little time to come if the has risen to eighty-six cents per ounce?" Well, all we can say is that if, when the in- Chinese is not what might be called a trinsic value of the rupee advanced beyond of us to make that fortune which we are all operations. working for. The American senator has the Indian Government on the brain. He will not admit that the Indian Government is just as much bound by the silver market in its currency as other parts of the world and China in particular. All that the Indian Government can do is to follow the requirements of trade in India, and if London, New York and Berlin can advance the price of silver India will be compelled to take steps to preserve its financial equilibrium; which it this case would mean a reduction in the fineness of the rupee. The whole question is Can the Occident restrain Oriental activities by artificial arrangements? If the feat can be achieved without the co-operation of the Asiatic countries concerned then it might be tried, but it would be interesting to observe how the arrangement worked when nature had her periodical convulsions The Chamber of Commerce did not attempt to deal with the subject, and they were quite right. Whatever they might say from an Oriental point of view would be disregarded. because the crux of the matter is the development of America's exporting trade across the Pacific, and not the development of Chinese industrial interests which are of as much importance to Hongkong as the com-

States of America-BLAZONING HONGKONG'S

mand of the Pacific trade is to the Western

REPUTATION. One of the individuals who holds th pinion that the world owes him a living has been living lately on the gullibility of the Chinese in that centre of probity and virtue, Kansas City. The usual American picture of the Chinese is drawn in lurid colours to indicate the depths of depravity and cunning trickery to which they will descend in order to fleece the Simple Simons of the great Republic. So that when a number of Chinese is outwitted by the superior reguery of others who do not belong to the Chinese race there is but little sympathy shown for the victims. If, on the other hand, Americans are the dupes it is sound; policy to raise an outcry against Asiatic slimness. According to recently published issue of the San Francisco Call'a foreigner has been trading on the upright and virtuous Kansas City and has been so successful that he is regarded as a

of 50 per cent by selling currency of un- slow work he assumed the role of Governevery theory of your own economists that I and San Francisco, with a warning chen notes, would certainly advance the men from the Atlantic to the Pacific out we must at once confront this point; if we | likely to drag the name of Hongkong in the Great Britain and Germany, will - the charges against him can be substantiated. Government of India consent to re-open The interesting part of the story is the imtheir mints when the price of silver bullion personal way in which the American writer tells the story. To him, the swindling of the "feature"; it is a mere incident in the day's its to en value, the Government of India work. Had it been the other way about we stood supinely by, and watched the natives | should probably have heard that the yellow throwing their silver money into the melting | peril had arrived and the Chinese advance of then there would be a chance for a few guard of the thug brigade had commenced

THE BRITISH AND CHINESE CORPORATION

(22nd December.)

Ten years bave now clapsed since the British and Chinese Corporation began those operations which have contributed in a marked degree to the development of railway extensions throughout China and, at the present time, give abundant promise of even enhanced prospects in the future. Although the name of the British and Chinese Corporation figures so large in connection with every railway scheme projected in the Chinese Empire-and that of its principal representative, Mr. J. O. P. Bland, is continually in evidence—there are possibly many who have but a glimmering idea of the origin of the Corporation and the purpose for which it was formed. At the tenth annual meeting since the incorporation of the society, held in London on the 26th of November last, Mr. William Keswick .M.P., seized-the occasion to glance back over the main features of the history and rise of the Corporation and to recount the various steps in its progress as it gradually became a powerful factor in the opening up of railway communications in Chioa. Few enterprises have attained such a commanding position, in the affairs of a foreign country as is held by the British and Chinese Corporation in China, but that the confidence of the Chinese high administrators has been thoroughly justified and retained is manifest in the close relations which subsist at the present time. To begin with, the Corporation started well; it started under the auspices of one of the two princely houses in the Far East, Mesirs, Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the premier banking institution of the Orient, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, so that success was practically assured from the outset, if the Chinese authorities would merely trust in the good faith, of the promoters. When the Corporation was registered in London in 1808, the mercantile firm and the banking establishment had jointly entered into a number of preliminary contracts for, loan issues in connection with railway construction in China, so that the Corporation entered upon its life of activity with a full cargo of responsibility. At that time, said Mr. Keswick, addressing the Corporation's shareholders last month, "the Chinese Had bullt a portion of the l'exing-Tientsin-Shanbaikwan-Newchwang Line, called the Northern Railways of China, and in 1899 our first loan, was issued. on the security of the railway and the guaranteo of the Imperial Government. The issue was received with great favour, being more than four times over-subscribed, and the result indicated that investors were ready and indeed eager to finance such railway enterprises, and but for the untoward events in Peking and the anti-foreign movement in many parts of China which so quickly followed the emission of the loan, the other railway loans provided for by the Corporation's agreements would have been marketed equally successfully, and with the same advantages to China and the Corporation, The effect, however, of the "Pussian scare" and the "Boxer rising" seriously affected Chinese credit, and for a time impeded foan issues, the partial destruction of the Northern Railway and its necessary occupation by foreign Powers producing a natural collapse of confidence. Notwithstanding these difficulties, the service of the loan was punctually met, and the railcondition made good. This railway has since been developed into a magnificent asset of the Chinese Government, and is a monument to the practical talent, earnest peal and persistent energy and effort of Mr. Kinder, its founder and angineer-in-chief." We need not enter into questions connected with the retirement of Mr. Rivder in view of the

trenchant comments which the 177mas repre-

sentative at Peking addressed to his journal

not so very long ago; all that need be said is

that Mr. Kinder has fest a record of brillians

success behind him and to quote Mr. Keswick, I sallway shrough the provinces of Kwangiung of the Empire, and the loss of capital to India | cases these demands are complied with by "there need be no misgivings as to the postini | and Kwangel In all these circumstances it is will constitute a safety-valve for the exit of regarded as a prolongation of his holiday. In all these circumstances it is will constitute a safety-valve for the exit of regarded as a prolongation of his holiday. In all these circumstances it is will constitute a safety-valve for the exit of regarded as a prolongation of his holiday. supervision and management of the line in not surprising that the shareholders unanti- explosive feelings. In Bhanghai, however, the But when we come to look into the matter inconveniences in unduly inflated prices of land. | ternational Banking Corporation was easted the future, the new appointment of engineer- mously doubled the fees of the directors, from native authorities regard, the situation with, more closely, we find that although Mr. ed property, by reason of the demand exceedin-chief having to be made by the Railway Administration in consultation with the British | Chairman's (se to £500 per annum. Such gen; the doing their utubes | Coleman and the chairman's (se to £500 per annum. Such gen; the anyunpanches of the writer that the case can be perhaps that attempt at blackmail was intended and Chinese Corporation. Following the crosity speaks for itself and marks the satisface to mislead the people and tuduce them to flotation of the first loan there was a long tion of the starcholders with the work of the join the revolutionaries who are blancing period of luactivity and it was not until management. The British and Chinese Cor. a boup de main, A strict watch is accordingly | Craig should not have been mentioned at all. system, the rate of interest assumed for cal- signature, we are told, of several notorious igos that the first instalment of the Shang- poration is engaged in a great policy of ad- being kept on the movements of those who are at least that seems to be culation of premiums should not perhaps ex- robbers who declars that they will be satisfied hai Nanking railway loan, amounting to vancement, and what is more to be noted by £2,250,000 was fretied. Unfortunately the those having so direct interest in the Corporapolitical situation then was generally unsettled from it is increasing the reputation and standand when the terms of issue were not found to | ing of Britishers to China and adding to the be so favourable as had been expected, a share | prestige of the British Government at Peking. It the participation of future profits had to be goded as an inducement to subscribers. The reception of the loan was disappointing, but when the second instalment, £650,000, was issued, the conditions were satisfactory, and at par the subscription was readily taken without any fight to participation in profits. The rail-Way could have been completed in three years instead of five, thus saving two years' interest and gaining two "years" revenue, but the Chinese Government failed to see the force of the suggestion. However, the railway is completed and is already more carning expenses. In this connec-Mr. Keswick referred to the paralyaing effect of lekin exactions on goods traffic and said that but for these harassing troubles there would undoubtedly have been a substantial surplus on the working of the sailway to divide. He added : "Lekin is the illdefined irregular local and district exactions on goods which are so troubletome throughout the country, but as the Chinese Government. dre responsible for the interest on the load, and are entitled to four-fifths of any surplus earnings, there would seem to be every incontive to a settlement on a defined basis. Meantime, on behalf of the Corporation and all other holders of net profit sub-certificates, we ard doith all we can to urge on a settlement. Coming to one of the undertakings which is tegarded as of vital importance to the future prosperity of Hougkong, the construction of the Kowloon-Canton railway, Mr. Keswick spoke of the "interminable and almost exhausting: to a life of mechanical servitude. Above delay and difficulties! which preceded the Inonching of the loan for £1,505,000, but the terms were finally arranged and the loan was issued at par last year. All that the chairman deemed necessary to say in this regard. was that: " The engineer-in-chief-bas completed his final working survey and estimates. and is urging the Chinese to push on with conattruction. This line will conflect with the railway which is being made by the Government of Hongkong on the one side and effect the through communication between the Colonyand. Canton, which is so much desired, and later, when from the latter city to Hankow there will be established a direct railway communication; through the whole length of China with the capital," The Shinghai-Hangchow-Ningpo railway loan for £1,500,000 was issued in May last at 99. "The Chinese Imperial Govern, ment is responsible for the construction of this failway, but, according to our information, two provincial companies, who have been in the held for some time, are constructing a railway independently of the Government. The posttion of these companies is peculiar; they are working under an edict which ought not to have been issued, and conflicts with the edict under which our loan was suthorised, and some dirangement will have to be come to between the Government and the companies." These tours aggregate the considerable sum of £8,200,000 and account for all the contracts which the Corporation had in hand when it was registered ten years ago with two exceptions, namely a joint agreement between the Deutse che Asiatische Bank and the Corporation with the Chinese Government for the Tientsin-Pukow Railway. Loan and an agreement between the Corporation and the Chinese Government for the Pukow cto Sinyang Railway Loan, These contracts were transferred by the Corporation to Chinese Central Railways, Ltd., and they, in conjunction with the Dautsche Asiatische Bank, issued £3,000,000 on account As regards the benefit to the shareholders of the Corporation from the various loans issued Mr. Keswick stated that, including the distribut tion now recommended, the dividende average £10 7s. per cent. per annum on the amount paid up on the shares from time to time and there are profits held in reserve equal to about £4 per share. That in brief is the record of the British and Chinese Corporatlon during the ten years of its existence. - It does not take into account the extraordinary patience and diplomacy which has had to be exercised by the chief representative of the Corporation in spothing Chinese suspicions and bridging over their susceptibilities. It omits all mention of the prolonged negotiations rent deted necessary by the demands of those Chinese officials who maintained an attitude of ditagonism to the operations of the Corporat tion simply because they failed to see where they directly profited, to use a cautious cupher mism. Time and again-the Far Eastern rebrosentative, Mr. J. O. P. Bland, must have touched the depths of despondency when after having met-all the objections and satisfied all the quibbling views of the other parties to the loan he found negotiations suspended for some trivial cause or for nd reason whatever. Little wonder that the ubigulty of Mr. Bland is becoming a bysword, and his unvarying urbanity second nature, for only these two characteristics combined with an enormous capacity for taking pains and supreme business ability could have achieved of railway ramification is completed and the kok. The fact, however, that Dr. San Yat Sen general prosperity of China advanced. In his | finds it profitable to visit Siam in order, it is to

AN EDUCATIONAL PALLACY. At the annual distribution of prizes to the successful scholars attending St. Joseph's Collegs yesterday, His Excellency the Governor laid emphasis on the importance of acquiring a knowledge of shorthand and typewriting and also spoke in laudatory terms of the special attention paid to elecution. "These are al exceedingly useful and valuable subjects of practical us in whatever sphere of life boys may enter on leaving school," said His Excel lency... We have often attempted to discover the origin of this implicit faith which so many sensible people place in the value of shorthand and typewriling. One might conclude from the terms in which these kindred subjects are so frequently referred to that the capacity to take dictation at the rate of so many words minute and the ability, to operate a type machine are the absolute "sesame" to com mercial success and a sine qual non in every pursuit in which a plain education is essential As a maiter of fact, there are a hundred and one disadvablages connected with the acquisition of these purely mechanical arts, and except gain corresponds to the drudgery involved, the first place the faculty of taking notes it shorthand dwarfs and destroys the memory. invariably effects the spelling, and tishall condemns the boy without influence or the qualities associated with dogged ambition all, if corrodes and weakens one of the greatest gilts of humanity, that of imagination. The boy who dives school equipped with the pecessary ability to take a chair in a lawyer's mechanical device, is no better than a mere cog in the working of an office. Doomed to largely because it is not required, and, indeed, it is not wanted at any price. And unless that boy who has joined the great army of clerks, become respectable and high-toned, is bodily driven from his deak he is on the fair way to becoming a staguant monentity. All this because hehrs been drilled and drum-majored into belief in the absurd-superstition that shorthand and treswriting form the coping-stone of commercial education. We have no grudge against these two subjects; but we do most strenuously object, to their glorification, as il they word the " world without end" objects of all knowledge. Half the pupils who start to learn shorthand have about as much rea knowledge of English as the hind leg of donkey. They may have a vague idea that there is such a thing as a derivation, and given time they may concoct an epistle which wil pass muster in a crowd, but as far as the preoise and nady use of plain, vivid Anglo-Saxon is concerned they take a back seat. Yet instead of having the principles of English instilled into them in the innumerable ways which the born teacher : understands, they are induced to apply themselves to the study of the dreament subject in the whole gamut of scholastic studies and devote to shorthand hours and days which would be far more profitably spent in learning even grammar. As for elecution, the less said the bet? ter. Possibly some of Hongkong's notables distinguished themselves is their youth as expopents of melodramatic verte à la G. R. Sime but it is perfectly certain the ability to spout and rant and include in the heartrending trethem a single iots. If we might be permitted to say it without offence, there is not a single speaker-in_the_elocutionary-sense-at-the Legislative Council and sutely nobody in Hong kong dreams of anything higher than that. It is to be hoped that the teachers at Sti Joseph's College will not become possessed of an exaggrated ides of the inportance of shorthand, typewriting and elocution. The report of the Inspector of Schools shows that in stitht metic the pupils have done admirably, especially in class III of the Chinese division, where g; per cent. was awarded on the papers set. The sward for book-keeping was "very good," while in algebra the awards to the various classes are curiously diverse. As might be expected, English composition was only good to fair, ideas poor, parsing faulty and slovenly in some cases and spelling of grammatical terms very poor, Dictation, of course, was quite satisfactory. From these results, . it is evident that the students

CHINESE REFORMERS AT WORK. (23rd December.)

in later life.

placed to the efforts of the Corporation. Of and within a short time of his landing to Mukden on December rath last year, and of its operations remains and that effect will be the waining in good part and returned to it reads very much like a fairy tale. seen to greater advantage as the network Singapon by the next hieuniar leaving Bangconcluding remarks, regarding the future of the | be presumed, to awaken the combative in-Corporation Mr. Keswick said that at the pre- stincts of his fellow-countrymen in Bangkok. tent moment it was difficult to prognosticate. will cartilply be taken as indicative of a fresh ald in construction may prove an expensive | managed to prevent any ebullition, and

Loo to Lio per annum, and increased the mach hotalbest bearing that Gibson and Mr. Craig are meetioned by the log the supply, and in other abnormal conditions. the depleted treasury of a noted bandit, but suspected of harbouring designs against the drawn from the report of the discussion. The coed at per cent. The bonds should all be with nothing less than the "loan " of a million Government and the services of the studied pal | President, in explaining the position to Mr. for the same amount, twenty-five rupeer, and dollars, There is something entitledity decent Police have been engaged in the work of locating | Shelton Hooper, remarked : "The letter from | they should all be printed on damp-proof and | and inspiring, something in the nature of high the propagandists. The secret service men em- | the Colonial Secretary says that the existing | insect-proof paper, with good ink, and sold in | finance, in a claim of that amount that ployed by H. E. Tuan Fang have been at work | arrangements shall continue, and if you refer to | air-tight cylindrical tin cases of cheap make. | lifts it out of the mere a sordid a ruck in Shanghai and as a result of their forretting, the letter which announced the present arrange. The bonds, might be oiled after printing to of common regnery. A One: vernacular paper it has been discovered that a large gang of ment you will see that Mr. A. Gibson, was ap- render them lasting. Bince, no interest, is to has attempted to show that the demand has revolutionaries has made the Settlement its pointed to act as secretary during the absence be paid, no coupons would be required, and been made in a spirit of levity and locund temporary headquarters: Last week, the de- of Mr. Woodcock, and that Mr. Woodcock's the bonds would pass from hand to hand, like sarcesm, but to admit that is to route be last of portant arrest on information laid by an and Mr. Craig." On which Mr. Hooper'ob. of rupees, continues the writer, with an issue of robbers would not be so daring and foulfish as emissary from Nanking, the suspect in served: "That is as far as the pay is con- | 4 lakes of bonds all to be repaid in too years, the to sak for a million dollars which it's beyond to be about 32 years of age. Described as | Craig pertaining to the secretaryship, but the of rupees is Rs. 250,000, It is a matter of cal- the Banking Corporation might not have smally translations into Chinese of works by Kropot- ments shall continue." Mr. Hooper-"Then kin, Godwin, Proudhon, Tucker, Tolstoy, and it was unnecessary to allude to Mr. Craig?" others. It was suspected that the other The President .- "Yes." That is to say. residents in the lodging-house were also emis- Mr. Gibson does the work and Mr. Craig taries of some anti-monarchical society, but takes half the pay for watching him do they denied any knowledge of the prisoner. it. Is there any other explanation? In It has not been decided whether the alleged that case what would happen if the divided revolutionary will be tried in Shaughai or sent | secretary bip -divided in so far as the salary to Nanking, but the artest is taken as avidence | is concerned—committed a breach of the law? that the anti-monarchical movement is gather- Would Mr. Gibson go to prison for his mising force in the North and unsettling the minds | demeanours while Mr. Craig drew the entire | ment to thrift is enormous. Morality is often | the name of those robbers whose arrests they in special cases it is difficult to see where the of the rabble. After the parental decrees pro- salary attached to the job, of would Mr. Craig a narrow short cut between two swils, avoiding are longing for. When the letters reach the mulgated by the Prince Regent It would be be the victim, being in the position of the most unfortunate if the unscriptions formen. fighting editor on a Pacific Coast newspaper? ters of dynastic batred should be given the Having made darkness still more obscure on smallest chance of spreading their doctrines, the subject of the secretaryship, the President which are subversive of all that tends to the proceeded to submit correspondence relative to welfare of the country. Whatever may be the the cleausing of Kowloon, Knowing nothing position in the North, and it is impossible to about the ments of the question we are not in detimate what luftuence the revolutionaries a position to say whether the suggestion to hold wield over the people, the movement has not the discussion in camera was justified or not, yet become aufficiently important to excite but surely there could be little to conceal in office and pound away day in and day out at a ment, although there can be no doubt that contractor. It is usually considered a matter Canton is over-run by needy adventurers of public importance and ratepayers have a who are only too willing to engage in any distinct right to know wherein the conroutine, his imagination is stifled and lost, enterprise which would bring grist to the tractor is alleged to have fallen short of his mill. In this connection, an extraordinary obligations. Of course, the Registrar-General Morcover, the revelations which have come to comes from Tokyo, regarding the recollected that on the last occasion the Board light as the result of certain criminal proceeds machinations of the Chinese revolution- | considered such a matter confidentially, but lings in London have brought lottery bonds feit Chinese paper money, which it was alleged was intended to form the nucleus of a fund to be formed for the purchase of arms and ammunition on behalf of Chinese revolutionists. The story goes that the sum aimed at was to million yen, so if there is any foundation for the action of the Japanese authorities the anti-miniarchical movement in the North must be far more serious than anybody had suspected. That the Japanese Government place credence in the statement of one of the accused is | proceeded to enjoy themselves in private. evident from the fact that nearly a year has chief accused has the currious name of One Taunekichi, and it appears that he was formerly a man of standing, having been elected to a seat on the Fukushima Prefectural Council in 1905. While he held that position he visited Tairen to report on the commerce and industry of Manchuria for the benefit of the Depart. American senator-submitted by Mr. Moreton ment of Agriculture and Commerce. Accord Frewen to the Hongkong Chamber of Coming to the Jopan Herald, during his solourn in | merce-on the subject of currency reform, and Kirin he became acquainted with Wan Fengwu, particular attention was given to the attitude a Chinese revolutionist, who confided him with of the Indian Government in its relation to the the secret that in order to raise a revolutionary I enhancement of silver. In the course of that insurrection at least eighty million tasis werd | latter the writer spoke of the almost ineradiwanted for the purchase of fire-arms, ammuni- cable habit of the Indian people to heard tion, etc., and then proposed to establish a their money and to convert it into articles to about fifty millions table as a financial organ of the revolutionists. As a first step it was be discovered whereby that liquid capitalproposed to buy up one million koku of might be set in circulation. In a somewhat beans in Tiehling and the neighbourhood, bitter tone, the senator wrote that " subscripas this would realise a profit of about tions have been collected in America during five million yen when sold in Yokohama; the past few years to succour starving Hindus With the proceeds it was proposed to buy from who had on their persons all the material of Japan two hundred thousand rifles as a start | famine reserve fund in the shape of bangles. ed to Shanghal to raise the funds. Inasmuch | vernment. Let me ask you what your view. four million tasis, a conference was held, when The accused consented, and undertook the free coinage of gold at a moment of acute despatched to Kirin. The accused, therefore. removed to Mukden, while Wan was taking refuge near Liacyang. . In the meantime the acshould be kept at the ground work of every education and not switched off to such accomthrough secret emissaries. In August last year plishments as shorthand and typewriting, which the accused decided to commence manufacture | knowledge of the manners and customs of if they are desired at all, can easily be acquired ing counterfeit paper money and for that purpose he wrote to Oshika Wakichi, one of the Oshika readily consented to join in the plot. Prior to starting the manufacture Oshika bought | given the matter any consideration, the idea is pieces of counterfelt Mukden paper money Dr. Sus Yat Sen, the well known reformer who is the bite noire of the Chinese Government, for three thousand yen. This bogus money the results which have to be credited to him. Is once stain actively pursuing his propaganda was packed and forwarded to the accused with what great strides the British and Chinese Lin Bangkok, much to the consternation of the one of the accused, the same having been Corporation has made its way into the inner Siamese authorities. Less complacent than received by the accused on November valit. connects of the Chinese Government, and the the Government of the Straits Settlements, the A large portion of the money was spent in the day will come when that Government will Siamese officials took counsel as to the best | purchase of beans, before he was arrested by

BANITARY BOARD AFFAIRS.

whereabouts aroused no little interest at a pre-

Board, the acting appointment has been in fact, met by the institution of a form of lettery more as a jest than anything else. Now the conferred on Mr. Gibson, and the name of Mr. | bonds. To cover the additional cost of this | Corporation has received a letter bearing the tectives of the Municipal Police made an im- half pay was to be divided between Mr. Giblon | currency notes. Assuming a loan of too lakes | half its humour. The paret stated that the this instance, being a man named Van cerned. I have no objection to thate The number of bonds to be repaid annually will be doubt would never be forthcoming, soult in Bing allas Teatig Kong, who is stated first letter does not cast any duties on Mr. 4000, Two and a hall per cent on 100 lakhs generally surmised that the letter received by a student, he had just returned from Japan, and | second letter indicates it is to be a joint secre-: | culation to decide how many of these 4 cco. | come from robbers, but from some people who had cut his queue, his bair being about six taryship. Of course, if you say that there will bonds should receive an attractive premium; had been robbed. That view may be the inches long. A search was made of the lodg. De only one secretary, it is satisfactory," The the balance being paid off at something above result of much cogitation but we refuse to acing house at which Triang lived and among the President-" The original letter appoints Doc- full value. This latter condition is necessary | cept it because the gentlement of easy purses. prisoner's possessions were a number of re- | tor Gibson as Secretary to the Board, and the price of the bonds at full face | did in fact, ask for a million, and it would be volutionary and socialistic writings, including second letter says that the existing arrange- value, throughout the period of 100 years, so the acme of ironical wit for a victim to smit his the fears of the Liang Kwang Govern- regard to a complaint against the conservancy ently reasonable though it might be, would thieves quit their evil ways and thwart the aries in the Far North, Indeed the confes- does he think that should form a precedent? I into bad odour, no matter how satisfactory sion of one of those arrested as an accomplice There ate a good many people who would pre- they may be in themselves. But taking the is nothing short of marvellous. On the 8th fer that all Government business should be con- proposition of issuing lottery bonds whose face inst, five Japanese were charged at the sidered confidentially, and there are some who walue is guaranteed and whose redemption is on board the British steamer Kalome which are Tokyn Criminal Court with uttering counter object to the press string public grievances at assured within a period of 100 years, it is rived here on Tuesday, and was anchored in any time, but fortunately they are not supreme | difficult to believe that the instincts of the .In- | the grounds set apart for oil-carrying ships. arbiters of our actions yet. If Kowloon's in- dian people would be directed away from tradi- The Ralomo, commanded by Captain Jackson. terests as affected by the conservancy contract are not of general interest to the community | cepted by treasuries and post offices, and which, we shall probably be told next that Government servants are beyond the pale, of the law-However, despite the unaccountably weak remonstrance of Mr. Shelton Hooper, the suggestion that the representatives of the press should retire was adopted and the members elapsed since the prisoners were arrested. The INDIAN LOTTERY BONDS AND

PINANCIAL REPORM.

(24th December.)

Reference was made in these columns the

other day to the communication from an

Interesting contribution towards the solution of of the Tientsin-Pukow Kailway in March last; molo of the realistic reciter did not advance commercial company with capital amounting of jawellery. The hope was expressed at the exchange problem in India. and then repeat the operation until the pres and omements, and only that the Indian mints | furnishes details of particularly flagrant raids, parations were all complete. This being agreed | were closed and the mintage of supees made | as the result of which the villagers residing on to between the parties, Wan Fengwit proceed. a most profitable monopoly of the Indian Go- the cutskitts of the capital are victimised by Some excitement was caused by one man atas there was no prospect of raising more thad | would be if we had a famine in the United | their neighbours rather than do an honest day's States, if our people had vast stores of gold in Wan-suggested-the-uttering of counterfeit bars and bangles accumulated during a thous | year has been particularly hard upon the in-Mukden paper money to the amount required | and years and if we closed our mints to the dustrious and that, therefore, the little store they of flames, in the midst of which the oil was exwork. Just then the Chinese Government was famine and disaster?" The solution of this stremuous labours to keep the wolf from the worked hard and some thirteen feet of water energetic in detecting the movements of the question according to the American financier door and make meagra provision for the revolutionists and many police detectives ward is found in the opening of the Indian mints, I traditional festivities, the fact that they should finally decided to scuttle her through the engine when in times of stress the people would, strip themselves of their jewellery and re-convert | the more sympathy and compassion for them. It it into ready cash. That is, of course, a may be taken for granted that the robberies fathoms of water at Pasir Papiang near the cused was in constant communication with Ward | purely hypothetical supposition, which may not | which come to the ears of the authorities conbe admitted by those who have an intimate stitute but a tithe of the actual number of those Hindus and Mahomedans, Indeed, from the the petty officials appointed to protect the the Captain who joined the ship in Algiers. tenour of articles in the india press, which people in the outlying districts to conceal accused, in Tokio, disclosing the scheme, entirely disregards the suggestion, although as far as possible the real state of affairs, it must have occurred to everyone who has I in order that they may get credit for the The Harbour Department launches left he from an unknown party in Moli 20,000 | not apparently viewed in the same light as that And, besides, the peasantry and ignorant | had been on the scene up till then being the presented by the senator. At all events it is not put forward as a practical issue, which amounts | their losses into prominence. . There is all to the same thing. It is believed, however, that the more reason to fear, then, that when captain and officers were still standing by Bufficient, however, has been said to indicate work, and recently he made his appearance through the medium of Havada Tamerichi, inducements are being threatened by watching her burn but. But by that time the likely to attract the vast sums of buried capital I blackmailers, and railway stations are being was absolutely scuttled and could be which is locked up in jewellery and family I looted within sight of the capital, and the Pro- left for the fire to burn livel out. At present hoards, and a writer in Indian Engineering sub- | vincial Government is driven to the fast resort | there is no explanation as to how the fire on mits a scheme founded on a wall known prace of offering rewards for information concerning | curred. admit the debt under which it was been means, of ridding themselves of this firebrand, the order of the Japiness Consul General at tice which obtains in Muroph. the wheresboutsof brigands, the gendaments are the debt under which it was been means, of ridding themselves of this firebrand, the order of the Japiness Consul General at the wheresboutsof brigands, the gendaments are the which obtains in Muroph. As the writer says; "Any person who puls | criminally negligent in the performance of their | was still burning dercaly. The course, the Corporation is not a philanthropic Bangkok Dr. Sun Yat Sen was requested brought before the Toklo Law Court to answer for attracting this duties. It is not as if the Government were practical echanne for attracting this duties. It is not as if the Government were practical echanne for attracting this duties. It is not as if the Government were practical echanne for attracting this duties. It is not as if the Government were in Previous severe foll and shipping fires in. institution and the promoters do not claim to to leave Siam at the earliest possible the charge, if it takes a year to work up the lost capital, would deserve the sterning of the Dutch steamer. be dispensers of charity; it is a business con moment. The archagitator, on whose head case against the accused how long will it take. tude of India, whatever that might be worth. Sectly well that with the Reynlers in the barbour in October 1907, the cern, conducted on business lines, but the Chinese Government has set a price, took to try them? The story may be correct but Apart from its financial advantages, the poll- festive season all the vagabouds and mother maphths fires on the Auchenorus and another tical advantages to be gained by the utilisation | do-weels, who at other times are content | vessel in July 1906, and the serious fire at the of this boatded wealth are not incomissionable. to grab along as best they can from day Pulau Sambu oil tanks in July 1006 when Almost too bbylous to mention they may be to day, gain an access of courage in order I several men were killed, and the fire on board summed up in one sentence : A stable Got- to make ciganised levies on the peace-abiding | a tongkong loaded with kerosens in which five ernment has the support of systyone of its orb. | and diligent. Whatever extra precautions thay | Klings were injured. The Secretary of the Senitary Board, whose | ditors, With suadeal, and boycott in the air | have been taken, if any, have broved wordly foreign capital is shy, and with reason, since | ineffective and if the people bear the burden Along meeting of the members, must be a litotella cabitalists have all to tosts, while the I drietly it is simply because they have become being favourable to progress and afforts at dom. Recent exchanges from the Month give proud man to-day, While everybedy knows matter capitalists are not involved to any inneed to the caust practices, In the district good government, but it is too early to form the impression that in certain parts of the that every Government official, especially the this same amounts." Accorded to Ko Tung, where there is a military camp, a any definite opinion of the policy under the country the spirit of turest is at work, and definite opinion of the policy under the country the spirit of turest is at work, and definite opinion of the policy under the country the spirit of turest is at work, and the policy under the country the spirit of turest is at work, and the policy under the country the spirit of the policy under the country the spirit of the work, and the policy under the country the spirit of the spirit of the country the country the country the spirit of the country new regime, Railway building without foreign but so far the Chinese Government have the service of the Colony, it must be quite clear sweepe native in buying fewells for his wife, been terrorising the inhabitants. The Government have the service of the Colony, it must be quite clear sweepe native in buying fewells for his wife, been terrorising the inhabitants. The Government have the service of the Colony, it must be quite clear sweepe native in buying fewells for his wife, been terrorising the inhabitants. The Government have the service of the Colony, it must be quite clear sweepe native in buying fewells for his wife, been terrorising the inhabitants. The Government have the service of the colony, it must be quite clear sweepe native in buying fewells for his wife, been terrorising the inhabitants. that the Sanitary Board's Secretary gives of his and in burying his spare cash, are precisely ment failing to capture the miscreants has like and to regulate the proceedings in telesion experience to the Chinese, in which case it as the Powers are determined that the new very marrow to his one four those of it Hodge" when he keeps his money offered sums varying from \$100, to \$500 for the would seem probable that in due course the reign shall not be disturbed by intermedian porary removal of Mr. Woodcock from the in a hole in the thatch, or buys a fine piece of any individual member of the band, Corporation's services may nigate be called for. | troubles it is improbable that the reformers | Sanitary Board to the reformers | Sanitary B The Immediate prospects are, however, not so will be allowed to made headway sealing the Court and if he does not, he finds the procedure too week the offices of the Yuen Tem railway station. I from Cavite who was caught, in strengt of the Yuen Tem railway station. I from Cavite who was caught, in strengt of the Yuen Tem railway station. avourable as we should like to see them, but rule of the constituted authorities. Fortunately, has left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were manufacted by a score of desperadoes and the line to see them, but rule of the constituted authorities. Fortunately, has left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the line of the constituted authorities. Fortunately, has left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes two men to dil, emublesome, the delays in realising too were less than the left a blank which it takes the left a blank which i out representative is on the alert, and no op- for the peace of China, the Cantonese are so and even there are care to send the payment of railway fates; to embagic opinm, ashore there are the control of the present will be born by the present of the composition of the c

ment which proposed the adoption of such a scheme would be the antagonism of that vast public opinion which regards lotteries in any shape or form as an invention of the devil It is just possible that the system, eminconstitute the raison d'etre of another reform, campaign, and afford the great army of Anglo: Indians settled in the United Kingdom an opportunity of girding at the Government in the Far East where individuals who workment, as in the case of the Straits Seitlements. notion that their savings are only secure when retained in the briginal form of ready money. or fawellery, it is practically impossible to instil into them the advantages accruing from the wise and careful investment of their capital, and the obsession which comes from the regarded as incurable. For these and other would be great difficulty in saving her. reasons we do not place much faith in the lottery bond schemes although it is at decidedly

A SPATE OF ROBBERIES.

That the Chinese New Year is fast approachling may be gathered from the numerous robberies and acts of violence reported from Cantan, Almost every day our correspondent work. When it is remembered that the past be despoiled by lawless reprobates arouses all room. Committed. Naturally, it is to the interest of remarkable efficiency of their surveillance. fore one o'clock, the Master Attendant who classes are by no means anxious to bring first to arrive at the Boarding Office. When

to contribute the sum of Sto poo to replenish that " Hodge" shall not lose either his con- squeal against his oppressors by endeavourfidence or his cash. If properly fixed, the ling to intimidate an American bank. Our bonds could be accepted at all treasuries and Canton correspondent, recording the opinion post offices at face value without loss, and av of the native press, quotes to the following a saleguard against franculent speculators. affect: "The victims of the robbers neferious In concluding his advocacy of the scheme, the plans are no doubt anxious to have their writer remarks that; "Of the morality of the spemies arrested and punished, but they are system it seems hardly necessary to speak. unable to get the local officials to do so. failing Since every bond is repaid at a value which which they have bit upon the plan of sending maintains its market or face value, the induce- false blackmailing letters to foreign firms in both the sylls of locked-up capital and starved [foreign firms, they will be lorwarded through industry due to the lack of public capital which I their consuls to the Viceroy, and the latter. seem greater than any possible inducement to upon receipt of the consult communication. fraud and gambling." One of the first difficulties | will no doubt give immediate orders to his which would have to be faced by any governe subordinates to bunt down the robbers." No I doubt that is what will happen in the first heatance, but the result of the mission is a foregone conclusion. What is wanted is a systematised regular police patrol, which will be aufficiently strong and vigilant to make faint-hearted schemes of the more adventurous rogues.

OIL SHIP ON FIRE.

SCUTTLED OFF PASIR PANJANG.

SS. "KALOMO" ABLAZE

Last evening, reports the Singapore Free Press of the 17th inst., a serious, fire broke out tional methods. A lottery bond which will be ac- is a fine steamer of some 3,200 odd tons and was bound for Cebu in the Philippines, and Swatherefore, is simply a bank note in another I tow. She had arrived here from New York form, is scarcely likely to appeal to a race and was carrying 88,000 cases of kerosene oil grounded in the belief that all paper equival and drums of benzine. The local agents are ents are dangerods and that, interest or no Messrs. McAlister and Company. The ship interest, the soundest way to acquire a fortune | was due to continue her voyage to-day, but is to heard up bullion. We know of instance. shortly after six o'clock yesterday evening the Master Attendant's office received a telephonic rained by the failure of the Oriental Bank | report from Pulo Brani to the effect that fire refuse to accept on any consideration payments | had broken out on board. Mr. Chalmers, the by cheque or through the medium of promissory | officer on duty, at once proceeded to get affort notoseven when these are backed by the Govern- and went down to see what could be done. Later in the evening the Master Attendant When people of thrifty habits once develop the | drove down to Jardine's wharf and went out in launch from there with Captain Edwards, the senior boarding officer, and almost that had

The Tanjong Pagar tug Varwing was also early on the scene

When the Boarding Officers, launch sarrived at the Dangerous Petroleum anchorage the constant haddling of secret hoards is generally | ship was well alight, and it was apparent there Every effort was being made, but the fire which had broken out in the bunker hatch and

was blazing fiercely was beyond the control of the crew whilst the Varunha was unable to get the flames under. . Under the circumstances the only thing to do was to get the crew off and sink the ship. The

harbour department launches accordingly wood by with the Varunda, and the Captain and Officers were transferred to the Mosa Mata and the crew to the Varunta. The launches continued to circle found the

ship to make certain that all of the officers and craw numbering some forty-six in all were saved. roving bands of wastrals, who prefer to prey on I tempting to get back on the blasing wessel to fetch his belongings.

The Varunta continued to numb water into the doomed vestel which was now a great mass have hidden away has been acquired by the most ploding every moment. The pumps were must have been put into her, before, it was

Eventually she took the ground in five Asviam. Fortunately no one was hurt, all the officers and crew being got off safely.

This is, we understand, the first command of The crew are European and Chinese, the lat-

the officers left, the crew of the ship and the

Him Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the mame and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordivance passed by the Legislative Councili-Ordinance

Silver and the Exchanges.

U.S. MONETARY COMMISSION.

HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND.

The following correspondence was considered at the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held on the 5th inst.:--. Government House.

Ottawa, C ober 26th, 1208. Dear Sir,-It is evide . at the report of the U.S. Monetary Comm. will bring up once more the entire question of Silver and the Exchanges.

In I renclose copy of a letter I have to-day received from Senator Teller of that Commission; and I think you may like to lay it before your Chamber.

We in England have no longer any organization such as before 1906 provided us with information from the Far East; but if were possible for a representative of your Chamber to attend at Washington between November and April 1908-1909, 1909-1910 the Commission would, I am sure, greatly value such evidence.

Meanwhile any statement addressed to me care of Senator Teller, Washington, "D.C., U.S.A., will be valued and very carefully considered. -- Yours etc. (Sgd.), MORETON FREWAN.

The President, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

> United States Senate, Washington, D.C.,

October, 1908 Dear Mr. Moreton Frewan,-I am obliged to you for your note. While the Monetary Commission would prefer your evidence just as early as possible after the date of its sittings [November roth) I follow that you would like to give it the latest returns you can procure England as to prices and wages in the Orient.

I quite agree that the real storm centre of our inquiry will not emerge either from our currency or from yours, but from the deplorable words, our troubles come not from our currency but from our exchanges. In the world's hitherto experienced two and only two great of the Indian Mints and the collapse last year | with all Asia would occupy her people in her which resulted from the failure of the rains in Hindustan, On each occasion the suffering and disaster was unspeakable, and that given the same cause we shall have a recurrence of the past the conviction has been borne in upon words, in the silver exchange with all Asia must cut down the purchasing power of one | the very outset of our inquiry, -- I am, &c., " half the human race, upset our exports and especially yours to Asia, and culminate in a money panic. To day a Chinaman must give 12 Taels for 5 Gold Dollars; a year ago he gave 9; at the old rating he gave 5 Tacls only for 5 Gold Dollars. We know that the wages of the Chinaman at his home, and the silver prices at which he markets his produce, are no higher than when he bought Gold Dollars for 5 Silver Taels; the consequence then of such a collapse In silver as we had last year must be to destroy all our export trades across the Pacific. We know that by comparison with even two years ago no ship now leaving San Francisco, or Portland or Seattle for Asiatic Ports can get any cargo at all. Secretary Root has sent a circularto allour Consuls in Asia asking them whether since the collapse of silver in 1907 those firms which import from us and from you have been subject as we should expect to serious losses, Can you bring me some further evidence on your return as to this? Have the export trades of Lancashire for example suffered as have our dustrial activities in Asia and in a competition disastrous to white workers? Five gold doltaels only, and five taels then paid the wages while to-day five gold dollars buy not twenty-five, but 60 Chinese mill hands. Such is the nature of the protest silver philosophy, and if you can secure from the Government of India Official Tables of

be much advanced. But what is more important by far is that our Commission should learn what are the intentions of the Government of India. Will that Government subscribe to our researches in a question all important to Indian finance, some official witness? I am of course merely asking this informally; we will make the proposalofficially, if you can learn that it will be well received. But we do not wish to encounter a black negative. My colleague, Senator Wolcott, went to England in 1897 with a Commission from our Government. Our proposals were acceptable to the English and French Governments, but you will recall that at the last moment the Government of India was permit- try and do too much, e.g., in composition the the consequent rise in the exchange would kill | point and not written in the best style. Sherter, objection I quite admit ; India's exports are not | have raised the standard of this work materially. natural but are, as indeed are all the exports of . The work of the lower classes should not be

Wages and prices concurring with the Tables

dustrially at their mercy. Thus it is all-important for us to know where we stand to day. The closing of the India. Mints in 1893, has in my judgment starved the Indian currency, and has prevented silver prices and wages there from rising. Again the great expansion of the currencies of the gold nations because of the new gold has inflated gold prices. If silver prices and wages do not rise, and gold prices and wages do rise it is quite clear that owing to the pressure of Asiatic exports industry after industry now, employing Standards: V, VI & VII and in II. Good to terms was very poor. white working men must close down to be re- fair in I, fair in III & IV. Marks were lost Geography.—Good. Standard V might have M. Gutierres, religious instruction; V. Soryta, placed in the world's economy by mills and in Standard III as many of the good essays done better if the questions set had been more geography. factories manued with yellow labour in Asia;

sibly the interests of the people of India are obtained full marks. vebreeved by these low exchanges with closed Mints; certainly the industries of China where no Minte are closed are being stimulated by lowexchanges, and already China has commonced to manufacture steel, but that a great civilised Government should be making a profit as today of to per cent by selling currency of unlimited logal tender to three hundred million of fix citizens; that the currency of India should be manipulated as to-day by a few officials, whose purchases of hon-purchases of silver bullion elevate or depress all the world's ex-

theory of your own economists that i must not renture to press the point furtiler. But this at least I may say; subscriptions have. been collected in America during the past few years to succour starving Hindus who Itad on their persons all the material of a samine reserve fund in the shape of bangles and ornaments and only that the Indian Mints were closed and the mintage of Rupees made a most profitable, monopoly-of the findian Government. Let me ask you what your view would be if we had a famine in the United States, if our people had vast stores of gold in bars and bangles accumulated during a thousand years, and if we closed our Mints to the

free coluage of gold at a moment of acute famine and disaster. I now come to the point which greatly concerns our Commission. I personally am in favour of the proposal advanced by Lord Herschell and the gold Members of your Royal Commission upon currency which reported in 1889, namely, the, issue of small notes of limited legal tender (40 Shillings), these notes to be secured by silver. This proposal was again advocated in 1891 by your Chancellor of Exchequer in what we here call the "Goschen plan," If our nation with England and Germany would issue these notes, would purchase with them and impound large central gold reserves, the Goschen plan would have a double effect. It would accumulate great gold reserves in New York, London and Berlin, the presence of which would keep money rates steady and low, and again by raising the price of silver bullion would raise all the rates of Exchange with Asia, thus enabling Asia to purchase from us and reducing the present bonus on all that the exports. Such a plan if adopted by one, two or three nations of the first rank would go far to settle both the silver question and the gold question, at least for a generation to come. But here we

are again met with the Indian difficulty. Our purchases of Silver to secure the Goschen notes would certainly advance the price of silver to 86 cents per ounce (43 pence). A that point the Government of India might decide to melt up and sell Rupees, that is to say, at 86 cents per ounce, the bullion value of the Rupee would equal the present exchange value (16 pence), so that in the deliberations of our Commission we must s once confront this point; if we approve the Goschen plan, with or without-Great Britain collapse in the gold price of silver. In other | and Germany, will the Government of India consent to open their Mints when the price of Silver bullion has risen to 86 cents per ounce history of the two precious metals, we have Why would not Great Britain join with us heartily in the Goschen reform?: A large cenvariations in their prices futer no - the fall in the | tral gold reserve is not less important to her price of silver in 1893 occasioned by the closing | than it is to us, while the rise in the exchanges

and to us a very real prosperity... I have. I fear, written you at very great length. It is however possible for you to effects I have no doubt. For thirty years | procure through the Indian Government some reply to this question, because we are quite me that any collapse in silver, or in other | certain to meet an almost insuperable obstacle in the attitude, of that Government, and that

own mills and factories and bring back to her

(Sgd.) M. H. TELLER. Mr. MORETON FREWAN, Government House, Ottawa, Canada,

It was decided to reply that a representative of the Chamber would attend the Commission if it could possibly be arranged.

BELILIOS VERNACULAR SCHOOL: PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

There was a large attendance of both European and Chinese ladies to witness the distribution of prizes to the scholars of Belilios Vernacular School, which was held last Saturday

The Inspector of Schools (Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe) presided, and after the prizes had been presented, he addressed the gathering. He congratulated the teachers for the good work they had done during the year. He was glad that the school was not only increasing in numbers, but in efficiency, too. He drew attention to Lowell Cotton Mills, during the great break in the average attendance for the past years. silver exchange of the last 18 months? Again In 1906, he said, the average attendance are there the evidences not merely in the last was 187; last year it was 237. This year year but in the last thirty years, that the dis- | the attendance had decreased slightly-about placement of the old 15 1/2 to 1 relation be- 237.27. The highest enrolment last year was tween the metals has resulted in unwonted in not over 300. In February of this year there were over 360 names in the books of the school The reason for the decrease in the attendance. lars (or one sovereign) used to purchase five Mr. Wolfe added, was due to the bad outbreak of plague. In February the average attendance for one day of twenty-five Chinese mill hands; was 311; in June 187 and in July 197, which was proof that the dropping off was due to the tuels and 12 taels pay a day's wage for epidemic. He hoped plague would not return next year to spoil the attendance, which otherwise was on the increase. There was this to be against cheapened silver which sums up our considered. Now that the attendance was on the increase and the fact that the Government had been forced to increase the number of teachers, but their number was still too small which we already have of the Imperial Board now, and in spite of the decision of the of Maritime Customs in China our inquiry will Retrenchment Committee and other unpleasant things of that kind, the school staff was to be further increased. In conclusion, Mr. Wolfe congratulated the headmaster and his assistants for the school's efficiency and hoped that

t would be maintained. The inspector's report on the school was read

as follows :-Staff,-Sung Hok Pang, & assistant teachers, one needlework teacher and 3 pupil teachers: Discipline and Organization.-The discipline is very good and there is a noticeable change in this respect in the lower standards.

Organization.-The work of the school conthmes to bevery satisfactory. There is, however. a tendency especially in the lower standards to ted to negative our proposal on the ground that | answers were very long but often not to the India's export trade. The validity of their more concise answers in good Chinese; would

Asia, largely dependent on cheaper silver and I left entirely to the mistresses. The masters lowered exchanges. We have always declared | who teach the upper standards should give a that the yellow races with white money money | series of lessons every week in the lower chespened by white legislation-hold us in- standards. The pupils will then be able to enlarge their stock of ideas especially in com-

> Sanitation,-Very satisfactory. Apparatus.-Very satisfactory.

Floor Space. - Sufficient for 432 pupils. Chinese: Reading .--- Very good in all stand. | subjects for casays. ards excepting III and IV. Standards III & IV good on the whole. The pupils in Standwere absolutely slike in style and expression.

Arithmetic: Mental.—Good. Geography: Political-Very good.

History .- Standard VI: A little weak. Standard VII: Very good.

Needlework -- Very good. art room, where some exceedingly pretty needle- very fair 37 per cent. Standard VII Junior was penmanthin drawing H. Sequeirs, geography as per scale. Window J. De Strie. One work was largeried.

St. Joseph's College.

PRIZE DAY. ANNUAL REPORT.

At four o'clock last Monday afternoon His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, presented the prizes to successful scholars of the St. Joseph's College. Parents and their friends and the college admirers turned out in full force, and the prettily decorated hall was

well filled when the ceremony opened. Among others present were: - Captain Simi son, A.D.C. Mr. A. J. Brackenbury (private secretary) Bishop Pozroni, Consul and Mrs. . J. Leitin, Mmer Volpicelli, Fathers Spada and Gabardi, Sisters of the French and Italian Convents, and others,

Brother Christian said :- Before laying before Your Excellency the report for the year, wish to express the regret all in the College felt at the removal of Bro. Sylvester, my predecessor. He was called by his superior to Colombo last March. " While here he endeared himself to all. The duty, however, of replacing him, was made comparatively easy through the excellent spirit he had fostered while in the

The attendance during the year averaged 336.94, while the number on the roll at present is 430. I must compliment many of our boys on the efforts they make to come to school every day. There are some parents, however, who are rather careless in insisting on the regular attendance of their sons. Boys who are, irregular are a hindrance to the general progross of their class. Besides, they cannot be trained in those important habits, which make. the successful student or business man-punctuality and perseverance. The conduct of the boys in general is all that could be desired In their dealings both with their teachers and their companions they behave like young gentlemen. In this respect our boarders deserve

special commendation. The weekly reports still continue to be an excellent stimulus to our boys. Many parents take great interest in them, and sign them regularly. - These, and the monthly examinations give an ample opportunity for constant and thorough work. I beg to remind those parents who are careless about signing the reports that we expect them to aid in the education of their children in this way. Every means should be taken to encourage regular daily work.

The special subjects taught in the College continue to make stendy progress. In the shorthand examinations, which were held under the management of the local Shorthand .Committee, we obtained the following results: Nine boys got 3rd grade certificates, six obtained and grade certificates, and three obtained 1st class certificates. C. Sequeira and F. Ozorio were awarded 1st class certificates for 100 words 3 minute in addition to a full certificate of proficiency. E. Marques also obtained a full certificate of proficiency and a 1st class certificate for 80 words a minute. At present about 30 boys follow the shorthand and typewriting

classes. Our last Oxford results were very encourag ing. Six seniors were presented for the examination-and-all-passed, F. Lopez getting distinction in Spanish. Twelve juniors sat for the examination and nine passed, J. Thuan and E. Marques getting distinction in religious knowledge. Sixteen preliminary boys were presented and all passed, the total number of passes being 31. Ten of our boys entered for the local shield competition in hygiene, but we have not yet received the result.

As a means of encouraging the study of English, we tried an elocutionary contest for a gold medal this year. I must say the boys took much interest in it. In fact their efforts were much appreciated by a large audience of kind friends and patrons. A special word of thanks is due to the judges, Mr. A. P. Wilder, Consul-General for U.S.A., Mr. J. P. Leiria Consul-General-for Portugual and Brazil, and Mr. G. T. Lloyd, editor. South China Morning Pest. Those gentlemen generously volunteered to give a medal to the and boy.

A library of interesting and instructive literature has been opened in connection with the Oxford Class, and we note with pleasure that our boys derive great profit from it. Any little contribution from our generous friends will be thankfully received.

The Chinese department of the College becaming more efficient. The boys who enter under ten take up a very good English tone. But those who begin the study of English over 14 rarely acquire a correct English accept. Some boys in this department are very irregular. Their parents seem to keep them home on the most futile pretexts. Three of the boys who passed the late Oxford Examination were Chinese, but 'it should be remembered that those boys began English in the first standard. Our boys continue to take a lively interest in football. We have entered two teams for the shield competition this year, but as they

are allowed the use of the playground at Causeway Bay for only a few hours a week, much cannot be expected from them. Now-adays outdoor games are essential to every wellequipped College. At present we have only levelling the garden in front of the College. This would cost a considerable sum, but no doubt many of our generous old boys and kind patrons would come to our sid.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS REPORT. Staff,-Bro. Christian, 11 Assistant masters and I Chinese Assistant teacher.

Discipline and Organization. -Very good. Sanitation.-Very satisfactory." Floor space sufficient for 522 boys. Apparatus.-Very satisfactory.

English,-Reading: Good throughout, Colloquial: Good on the whole. Standard

VI very good. Composition: Good to fair. Poor in I. The essays in VII junior were not quite up to the usual standard. In Standards V & VI essays should be done and not merely the reproduction of stories. The pupils in the upper standards have not a great stock of ideas on general

Dictation,-Good. Grammar.-Good on the whole. In Standard F. Leung, arithmetic; A. da Luz, religious ard III do not speak distinctly. The lowest IV the parsing was faulty and in VI it was instruction, geography; Yeong Sin, penmanstandards have greatly improved in this respect. done in a somewhat slovenly manner. In this ship; A. A. Remedios, religious instruction.

carefully studied.

tures for export has been already cut in half, by Writing.—Very good. The standard of work noticeable feature in all the papers was the geography, rel. knowledge; A. Tang, arithmetic, pentra reduction in the gold price of Silver. Pos- is very high. In Standard V all the pupils absence of dates. Had dates been given to a lic, penmanship; J. Canoi, arithmetic, penlimited extent the percentage of marks would | manship; A. Tayares, drawing; M. Essabhoy. have been very much higher. In Standard V geography; C. Tchetcheinitzki, English, Physical.-Standard V fair, the difference between the good and poor Standard II .- M. Baptists, proficiency, Eng. Standards VI and VII papers was so marked that it seems difficult to lish, drawing; A. Tavares, English, religious Mr. Brandy's Maskee Isst. 11b... (Greston) believe that all the pupils in this class received | knowledge, geography; F. Noronha, religious | Mr. Oisen's Radakin trat. Tib......(Dupree) the same instruction.

> Hygiene,-Very good in Standards IV and senior, good in Ill and V, and fair only in II arithmetic; O. Sales, penmanship. V. Good in Standards VI and and VII junior.

Goometry Standard VI fair, VII junior fair. Senior rood. Goomstrical Drawing .- Standard V. only, poor, Marks were lost he no boys attempted

question 5, an easy question. Full marks were given for 5/6 of the paper. Saveral boys failed to score any marks and hear and the Book-keeping Very good Standard VII senior and innior.

deler. Standard VI good on the whole. tandard VII fair. Chipose Division (three standards in all). English.-Reading: Good in Standard I and

Literature .- Standard VI and VII senior and

II, fair in III. "The pronunciation of many of the pupils was defective. Colloquial.—Good to fair. Composition.-Fair.

Dictation.-Good in Standard I, poor in II and very good in 111. The handwriting was Grammar,-Good in II and fair in III. Geography, -Good.

Arithmetic.-Very good in I, very fair in II and excellent og per cent. III. Chinese Reading : Good except in Il where there were too many pupils who could not red at all.

Composition: Good on the whole. Class, should do sentence building. Il question and answer, and III a letter."

The standard of Chinese Class III is not very high. (It corresponds with the fourth class of six classes, class I being the highest at the Ellis Kadoorie School) The pupils should be divided up into separate Chinese classes according to their merits. At present the English and Chinese classes are the same. This system naturally tends to keep smart boys

Grant.-Some subjects show a slight falling off since last year. The general standard of the work, however, is good. I, therefore, again return the school as thoroughly efficient and recommend the full grant 35s.

In conclusion, I beg to present my most grateful thanks to the following gentlemen for their generous contribution to our Prize Fund : -Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, Mr. H. N. Mody, Mr. A. P. Wilder, Consul-General for U. S. A., Consul-General J. J. Leiria, Mr. Gonzales de Bernedo, Consul for Chili, Mr. R. M. Smith, Manager, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Mr. Percy Smith, Mr. Ho Tung, Mr. Ho Fook, Mr. Francisco Tse Yat, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Mr. J. Machado, Mr. Ellis Kadoorie, The Catholic Union for their prize of \$25 for the best in religious knowledge, Mr. Belilios for the scholarship of \$25 for the best paper in English, Mr. Sing Kee, and Mr. S. Cingsbury.

His Excellency, addressing the gathering, said that when he was there last year he was able to congratulate the masters and boys on the marked progress of the College. This year he could do so even more, and his Excellency proceeded to speak on various subjects on which the pupils were particularly bright. Continuing, he said that if the scheme for the university should fructily during the coming year St. Joseph's College would be sure to produce scholars requiring higher education. His Excellency was glad to see the boys were taking an interest in aborthand and book-keeping, as those subjects were important in any sphere of life. Last year the school-suffered a loss when Brother Sylvester left for Ceylob. But he thought that in Brother Christian they had a principal who would keep up the efficiency of the school, and he would be equally loved and respected as was Brother Sylvestor. He was there this afternoon to distribute the prizes and not to preach a sermon to the boys, but there was one thing more he had to say. He did not forgot that St. Joseph's College was primarily. a school for boys of European parentage; and he was glad to hear that the Chinese section was doing good work. What his Excellency wanted to say was-as the European boys were mixing with the Chinese, both in study and in play, he wanted them (the former) to set a good example; to teach the Chinese boys; and let them see that the people of the West did not tolerate what was mean and sneaky, so that when they returned to their homes they would take with them those examples and act accordingly. He wished the master and boys a good

Bishop Porzoni thanked His Excellency sincerely for the interest he took in the school It was a good encouragement to both teachers and pupils for the kind words of advice which H. E. nover failed to give. They did not fail to see that the College held an important position in educational places in the Colony and the work done during the past year deserved words of recommendation. If they were successful this year the kind words and api remarks of His Excellency would act as a stimulus for renewed efforts in the future. Once more the Bishop thanked the Governor for his presence there to-day, and he wished the

master and pupils success. The prizes were then distributed.

PRIZE LIST. Chinese Department.

Std. IB .- Kwong Kwai, English: 'Kwong Foo, geography, English; Lau Ah Moon, arithone small yard for play where the boys have | metic; Yee Chian, arithmetic; U Cheong, penhardly standing room. Of course, our posi- | manship; Lam Man Shing, penmanship; Chau tion is such that we cannot expect a large | Yat Fook, geography; Yau Won, Chinese; U cricket field. But I believe that a very good-| Cheong Chinese; Cheung Lam, drawing; Yau tennis court could be made by walling in and Wun, religious knowledge; Lui Sing, religious knowledge.

Std. I A.-/Lam Shul Kong, proficiency, English; Lan Ka Look, English; Yeung Heung Cheung, penmanship, arithmetic; Li Kong, geography, arithmetic; Wong Sum, Chinese, arthmetic ; Shui-Yu Fan, penmanship ; Chow Man Koog, drawing ; Chan Man Kong, drawing ; Mack Sair Chew, Chinesen Std. II.-Fung Shu Piu, geography, English, Chipese; Kwong Ming, English, geography; Young Po Nam, arithmetic, drawing. Liu Chon Sing, arithmetic; Lo Shu. Fau, pen-

mauship; Chan Kwok Chuen, penmanship Ma Him, drawing ; Chau Kwok Wai, Chinese. Std. 111.-Mak, Sing, English, arithmetic, geography, hygiene; Yan Ng, English, arithmetic, geography; Chang Yeung Fook, drawing, penmanship, hygiene; Wai Wing, Chinese, drawing; Lo King, penmanahip.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT. Std. I.B. (1st Division)-E. Sternberg, English, arithmetic, geography, penmanship Composition.-Very good in the Upper standard too the spelling of grammatical zod. Division.-F. Ribeiro, English; P. Lima, arithmetic ; D. Castro, penmanship ; I.

> Standard IA .- J. Blake, proficioncy, English: History,-Good. VII junior very good. A J. Borges, drawing, rel. instruction; P. Sequeira,

> he same instruction.
>
> Arithmetic.—Very good in I, IV, and VII ship, drawing; F, Sete, arithmetic; A Damund,

Std. IV .- Tang Chi Ko, proficiency, hygione; Mr. Powel-Grant's Raffles tost telbic (Wylly) Murray, English, hygiene : E. Basto, history, drawing; Lung Ping Kwan, mathema. Mr. Brandy's Maskee list 11b (Schnorr) 3 tice, penmanship : S. Pintos, drawing, penmanship; Ma Fun, mathematics; P. Reis, religious knowledge; A. Ramos, ral. knowledge; C. Baptista, history; S. Setna, geography; H. Reich, geography; L. Gomes,

Std. V.-F. da Luz, proficiency, spelling, drawing, penmanship; H. Ozorio, reading, geography, hygiene; J. Pereira, spelling, religious knowledge; R. Ribeiro, history, English, by giene; A. Castro, reading, penmanthip; Mayer, mathematics; Chi Cheong, mathematics; J. Valles, penmanship, history; W. Ezra, religious knowledge; A. Baptista; drawing; L. Ribeiro, geography.

Std. VI (Preliminary Oxford) :- D. Rosario, proficiency, English, rel. knowledge, history, mathematics, hygiene. M. Gochuico, geography, bygiene. L. Gootherts, English, drawing.

V. Gutierres, rel. knowledge. H. Barrenengos, history, Spanish, typewri

. Rabat, geography, Spanish. Chaung Kai, mathematics, drawing. Std. VII. (junior):-P. Prevost, proficiency, history, geography,

French, elocution, shorthand. J. Thuan. English, history, geography, bookkeeping, rel, knowledge, elecution, shorthand,

1. Mayer, mathematics, shorthand. J. Silva, mathematics. M. Biard, bookkeeping, French. E. Marques, religious knowledge. I. Asensio, Spanish. J. Gohiap, typewriting. M. Gootherts, shorthand. Std. VII (Senior):-

C. Sequeira, proficiency, English, mathematics, geography, history, bookkeeping, religiou knowledge, drawing, shorthand, typewritting. F. Lopez, English, geography, history, rel gious knowledge; Spanish.

P. O'Brien, mathematics. H. Basto, political economy, drawing. J. Erra, bookkeeping.

OXFORD CERTIFICATES.

Preliminary .- D. Rosario, M. Gochuicos L. Gootherts, L. Rabat, H. Barrenengon. Gutierres, R. Baptista, A. Silberman, C. Gardner, F. Gokee, Cheung Kai, J. Rodrigues, T. Carvalho, R. Luz, V. Yvanovich; and Yau Loy. Junior :- P. Prevost, J. Thuan (Distinction) Rel. Know.), M. Biard, J. Silva, I. Mayer, J. Asensio, R. Elias, F. Tavares, and E. Marques (Distinction Rel: Know.).

Senior.—C. Sequeira, F. Loper (Distinction Spanish), H. Basto, P. O'Brien, J. Erra, and M. Sternberg.

FOOCHOW RACES.

WINTER MEETING. [From Our Own Correspondent.] ".

Foochow, 17th December. I forward the results of the three days' races.

the list of winners having been wired to you The Stewards were :- Messrs. H. Baker, C. H. Balfour, G. Siemssen, J. P. Oisen, W. Buckley, R. Greig, J. C. Oswald and A. E.

Reynell. Mr. G. Siemssen performed very efficiently the duties of clerk of the course. THE STEWARDS CUP.—Presented. Value \$100. For all China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance S5. Half a mile.

Mr. Oswalds' Gamechick, tost 12lb (Wylly) Mr. Willie Shaw's El Oriollo, 11st 1|b...... Mr. Min's Kandshar Chief, 11st 1lb (Brand)

Capt. Hope's Spots, tost 9lb (Quelch)..... Capt. Hope's Ian, 11st 1lb (Dapree)....... Father O'Flynn's Kirkby, 11st 1lb (Gresson) Time 62-2/5. THE MAIDEN STAKES .- A forced entry of \$10

each with \$100 added. Second pony \$50. Third pony \$15. For subscription griffins of this meeting. Weights as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Min's Piper, 10st 12 lb(Brand) Mr. Powel-Grant's Raffles, 10st 12 lb Capt. Hope's Capital, 10st 12 lb ... (Quelch)

Mr. Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaron, 11st-7lb. Mr. Oswald's Dabchick, rost 9lb...(Dupree) Time: 1.43 1/5.

THE TOTALISATOR CUP.-Value \$150. For all China popies. Weights as per scale. Entrance \$10. One mile and three-quarters. Father O'Flynn's Mohawk Chief rost 12lb ...

Cap. Hope's Superb 11st 4lb (Quelch) Mr. W. Shaw's EliCriollo 11st 1b., (Schoor) _ 3 Time: 4.04

THE MIN STAKES.-Qf Sto each with \$70 added, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent, to the the first, second and third ponies. For subcription griffins of this meeting. Weights as per scale. Winners 7 lbs. extra. One mile

and a quarter. Capt. Hope's Marvellous tost of .. (Ouelch) Mr. Oswald's Dabchick tost 9lb ... (Wylly) Mr. Brandy's Maskee list ilb ... (Gresson) Mr. Oison's Redskin-fist-ilb(Dupres) Time: 2.59.

THE "OSWALD" CHALLENGE CUP .- Presented. For all China ponies. To be won at two consecutive winter meetings or three times in all by ponies the bona fide property of the same owner or owners. Entrance Sto to go to the winner until Cup is finally won when the second pony will receive the entrance fees. Weights as per.scale. One

Mr. Ewo's Heraldic rost 12lb(Dupree) Mr. Min's Frosty Morn stat 11b ... (Brand) Capt. Hope's Spots tost 9lb(Quelch) Capt. Hope'slian 11st 1lb (Wylly) Time 1 2.18 2/4.

THE TRAMEN'S CUP.-Presented, Value 5181 First pony to receive 70%, second 20%, third 10% For all China ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners at this meeting 5 lbs. extra. Entrance Sto. Twice round and a

Mr. Min's Kandahar Chief Hat. 110 ((Brand) Father O'Flynn's Kirkby Hat: 115 (Gresson) Mr. Oswald's Gamochick 15710 (Wylly) Capt. Hope's Fun Jost 12lb(Quelch) % o

THE MANDARIN'S OUP .- Presented by the local authorities. Second pony \$25. For subscription griffins of this Meeting. Weights as per scale. Winners 7lbs. extra. Entrance St Seven furlongs,

Mr. Min's Piper 1598 - (Brand) Mr. Powel-Grant's Raffles tost 11D (Welly) Capt. Hope's Capital lost. 121b (Qualch) Mr. Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaroo Hist. 7lb.

Std III. G. Carvalho, proficiency; P. THE WINTER STAKES. Of Sto each with 370 Algebra. Fair in Standard V. The pro- Kennedy, Roglish, rel. know. ; F. Silva, Rog. | dedded, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cont to blems were weak. Standard VI very good, lish; M. Bhoy, arithmetic, hygiene, penman, the first, second and third ponies. For eq After the coremony visitors paid a visit to the Studend VII Junior poor 30 per cent, senior ship, drawing J. Gomes, hygiene J. Scarce, Scription griffing of this meeting, france

Capt. Hope's Marvellous 154 lb ... (Quelch) a

Mr. Oisen's Paleface tost talb.....(Dupree) O Time: 2.21 THE BIO SWEET CUP Presented VI Value Sigo to first and Sag to second pony. For all Chine ponies. Weights as per scale. Win-

ners at this meeting 7lbs. extra. Entrance Sta. Seven farlange. Mr. Rwo's Hetaldio 159lb.....(Dupres) / I Mr. Min's Frosty Morn Hat alb (Band) 4

Father O'Flynn's Kirkby 11st sib-Capt. Hope's Spots tost olb(Quelch) o Mr. Oswald's Gamechick 159lb (Wylly) Time: 1.55 3/5. No. 12/2004 (2014)

THE HARKWAN CUP. Presented. Value Tis. 100. For subscription griffins of this meeting. Weights as per each. Winners gibs. extra; non-winners allowed 5lbs. Entrance \$5. Once round. Capt. Hope's Capital Tost 1215 (Qualch) 1

Mr. Wallaby Wallaby's Kangaroo 15610 Mr. Oswald's Dabchick 144lb (Wylly) 3 Mr. Oisen's Redskin 150D.....(Dapree) 0 Time: 1.27.

THE HONGKONG CUP.-Sigo to first and Sco to second pony if three or more starters, For all. China ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners at this meeting 7lbs. catra. Entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Capt. Hope's Superb 11st 41b (Quelch) Faiher O'Flynn's Mohawk Chief 159lb (Gresson)

Time: 44 2/5. THE " DASH" CUP.-Presented. Second pony \$25. For all China ponies. Weights as per scale. Subscription griffins of this Meeting allowed 5 lbs. Winners at this Meeting 5" lbs. extra Non-winners allowed 5 los Entrance \$5. .. Once round and a distance. Father O'Flynn's Kirkby x50 lb...(Gresson) Capt. Hope's Spots 144 lb (Dupres) Mr. W. Shaw's El Criollo 150 lb... (Schnorr) 3 Mr. Min's Kaudahar Chief 100 lb ... (Brand)

Time: 135. THE COMPRADORE'S CUP.—Presented. Value \$335. First pony to receive 70%, second pony 20% third pony to f. For subscription griffins of this Meeting. Weights as per scale, Winners of one-race 5 lbs, extra; of two or more races 7 lbs. extra. Forced entry \$10. One mile and a half.

Capt. Hope's Ian 11st 1lb(Qualch)

Capt. Hope's Marvellous 154lb(Quelch) Capt. Hope's Capital 147 D(Dupres) Mr. Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaroo 11st 715

Mr. Min's Piper 159lb(Brand) Mr. Powel-Grant's Raffles tost 12h (Wylly) Time : 3.36

THE FOOTHOW STAKES, -Of Sto each with Stoo added, divided 70, 20 and to per cent to the first, second, and third ponies. ... A forced entry for all China ponies entered at this meeting, and optional for subscription griffins. Weights as per scale. One mile

and a quarter. Mr. Ewo's Heraldic lost 12lb (Dupree) Father O'Flynn's Mohawk Chief test 121b (Gresson) 3 Mr. Min's Frosty Morn fist tib (Brand) Capt. Hope's Fun tost 12lb(Quelch) o Mr. Oswald's Gamechick tost talb...(Wylly) . 0 Mr. W. Shaw's El-Criollo Hat 1/b (Schnorr) . o

Time 249 2/5'. In this race, Mr. Gresson unfortunately knocked against a post and broke his leg.

THE CHASSE CUP.—Value Side to first and \$25 to second pony. For subscription griffins of this Meeting. Weights as per scale. Winners of one race salbs, extra; two or more races 7 lbs. extra. Non-winners allowed 5 lbs. Entrance \$5. One mile and

& QUETIET. Capt. Hope's Capital 157 lb(Quelch) Mr. Olwald's Dabchick 144lb

Mr. Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaroo (Schoorr) Mr. Oisen's Redskin Igolb(Dupres) o Time : 256. THE CRITERION STAKES .- Of Sio each with \$100 added, divided 70, 20 and to per cent.

to the fint, second and third ponies. For all China ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners at this meeting 51bs. extra. Non-winners allowed (lbs. One mile. Father O'Flynn's Kirkby 160 lb ... (Dupree) Mr. Min's Frosty Morn 150 lb (Brand)

Capt. Hope's Ian 153 lb,.....(Quelch) Capt. Hope's Spots 144 lb(Wylly) Mr. W. Shaw's El Criollo 150 lb ... (Schnorr) Time: 2.17. 3/5 LADIES PURSE .- Presented. First pony to

receive entrance lees; second pony \$35. For subscription griffins of this meeing. Weights as per scale. Winner at this Meeting salbs. extra. Non-winners allowed 5 lbs. Riders. who have never won a race allowed 7 lbs. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters of a mile.

Capt. Hope's Capital 157 b (Dupree) Mr. Powel-Grant's Ruffles 157 h (Wylly) 2 Mr. Min's Piper 157 b(Brand) Capt. Hope's Marvellous 154th (Quelch)-Time Lal. THE CONSOLATION CUP.-Value Stoo. For

all bons fide beaten China ponies that have run at this Meeting. Weights as per scale. Entrance \$5. One mile. Mr. Min's Frosty Morn Hat il (Brand) :: Capt. Hope's lan rist lib(Quelch). 2

Mr. W. Shaw's El Criollo 12st 1th (Schnore) 4 Time: 2.14 4/5. THE MARCHU STAKES.—A forced entry of Sto each, with \$70 added, divided 20, 20 and to per cent, to he first, second and third

Donies. For all bong fide besten subscription griffing of this meeting that [have not won a race. Weights as per scale. Once round. Mr. Wallaby-Wallaby's Kangaroo 1 sat 716" Mr. Oswald's Dabebick rost olb

Mr. Brandy's Maskee 11st Th (Quelch) Mr. Oisen's Redskin sist alb (Dupree) Time 1.27 THE CHAMPION STAKES.—Of 310 each with \$100 added. A forced entry for China

ponies, and open only to winners at this. Meeting and optional for the winners of the Manchu Stakes and Consolation Can. Winners of two races at this Meeting 315 extra s of monthau two races 540 extra. Weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter. Mr. Ewo's Heraldic 152lb (Dupree)

Mr. Mio's Kandahar Chief agsib ... (Brand) Capt Hope's Superb 158lb State (Quelch) Cather O'lynn's Molawk Chief Tgalbacan West Street Land Conference (Schoor) Da

Mr. Oswald's Gamechick 152lb.....(Wylly) b a Time 1848 is a mile of the control of the THE LIDORE CUP.-Presented Value That

Second pony to receive \$25. For all (Mich. ponies Weights as par scale. Winhor it this meeting yibs, extra, Wondersting all owed sibs. Matrance Ss. Three that fere to

Case Arope's Spots 744th
Mr. W. Shaw's El Orialio | cold - (Schmott) |
Mr. Miss's Fronty Mosts 1611 - (Brand Father O'F grant Eirens stelle in Queles

Hongkong Volunteer's Plight.

LOST ON MOUNT PARKER.

WANDERS ALL MIGHT IN MIST AND RAIN.

When the Hongkong Volunteer Corps left the city on Saturday afternoon to engage in a. sham fight in the Lycemun district and trudged. their weary way through mist and drizzle over the sloppy mountain paths they had but one concern and that was to pass the day pleasantly. But as events proved, the adventure which befell one of the volunteers who was left behind in an unknown country, was on the verge of becoming tragic. Some 70 or 80 members of proceeded at one o'clock on Saturday after-What the bold infantrymen intended to do or what the operations were intended to illustrate we have not the faintest notion. But with their rifles on their shoulders and their canteens at their sides they murched up the side of Mount Parker, and so far as we know marched down again-like a celebrated warrior of another had promulgated regulations within the Procentury-all but one man. The mountain was vince; similar to those in Kwangtong in Sepenveloped in a thick, clinging, Newfoundland | tember last, whereby all dealers in raw opium mist so that the troops could scarcely see an arm's- must be registered and licensed. 'Under length ahead. After deploying here and de- the new regulations the number of opium bouching there and doing all manner of curious. Longs permissible in each provincial city will things in the way of acouting, locating the enemy, be limited to ten only. All dealers will repulsing the invaders, emptying their canteens, be required to supply a long list of detailed consuming their rations, falling down greasy particulars relating to their business which is slopes, fiercely charging at phantom figures, tantamount to a complete disclosure of their digging into the earth as if they were bunting whole trade to their competitors. Dealers in as he was concerned. or treasure, coating themselves with mud as Kiangsu see in the new law the same difficulties if they owned the earth, and generally com- and entertain apprehensions similar to those all appreciate, the volunteers were called back .- last .- Even-more-operous-than-the-Southern the same line of business in Hongkong. They fell in or fell out just as the spirit moved | legislation, the provincial Government in them, for it seems that by this time the fog was Kiangen limits the minimum quantity that can storeyed brick building behind the pumping so dense that most of the volunteers had be sold at any one time by a dealer to one to look after themselves. Apparently there | whole "ball " of opium. Those who have been was no roll-call. The Taikoo men took in the trade for any length of time discover in cupied by families, while the ground floor was. their own road and the Victoria troops the regulations the thin end of the wedge tramped to the car terminus and nobody for the creation of a monopoly by which thought of asking whether anyone was missing. the officials stand to gain. Representa-They returned to Hongkong and departed tions have accordingly been made to imeach unto his own way. But left behind in the porting firms in Shanghai by whom, we darkness and the rain was a young volunteer, are informed on the most reliable authority, person, employed two fokis in the shop, but who only realised his unfortunate plight when the matter has been taken up and suitable help was gone. He was sonked to the skin, communications addressed to the British Connight had fallen; and he was alone on a sul-General in Shanghai with a view of the treacherous mountain pathway five miles from anywhere. The road round Mount Parker is invoked to combat this fresh attempt at creating one of the most desolate in the Colony. Nobody-seems-to-use-it-unless-it-be-Govern-l-established-firms-of-merchantsment officials. At many points, the path lies alongside the face of the mountain 'In places there are morasses and swamps. The unfortunate volunteer had no idea of his understand that British firms in Hongkong whereabouts. Exactly what happened to him nobody knows, or at least nobody is willing to tell. This much is certain, he clambered about that mountain in despair throughout the livelong night. He must at one time have become semi-conscious in his baggard distress, for he lost his rifle, and knows absolutely nothing about where or how he dropped it. A soldier or a civilian does not abandon his rifle to its fate simply because he is in difficulties. Rather he clings to it for protection. At any rate this volunteer wandered about the mountain all night and his feelings can be imagined. How he escaped falling over the mountain path is miraculous. 'It was not until Sunday forenoon that the alarm, was raised. A band of volunteers was hastily summoned to proceed to the rescue, They went to Shaukiwan and proceeded hot foot and to climb Mount Parker. Half-way across they saw a limping, bedraggled, broken-down image of misery dragging himself along the path. It proved to be the missing volunteer. Only a vague indefinite report as to how he spent the night has transpired. The recruit did not, we are told, seem to know much about it himself. He had lost his rifle but where, he hadn't the slightest idea. Somehow or other he had found himself early in the morning with an Chinaman at the Tytam waterworks. That was all he knew about it he was tired, foriore and miserable. His enthusiasm had waned and vanished and i was only a spectre that his comrades escorted home. However, all's well that end's well

LOSS OF MANILA STEAMER.

the volunteer is safe and sound, and all the

authorities are now concerned about is the rifle.

Probably there, will be a roll-call when the

next sham fight is ended.

MANY IMPORTERS SUFFER.

The British steamer Kalomo, en route from New York to Manila with an extra large cargo of merchandise for local importers and various branches of the insular government, was burned and scuttled at sea, off Singapore and both vessel and cargo are reported a total loss, says the Cablenews-American of 19th inst. On board the Kalomo and lost with the ves-

Manila public alike.

are among the heaviest sufferers from the should greatly suffer in consequence. No disaster, their loss including fourteen motor | only Japan's exports to China, but Japanese cycles and a large consignment of shoes for the eplisted force of the Philippines constabulary, I to compete with Chinese products, will be placmanufactured under contract with that firm in ed in a very disadvantageous position. It is the United States.

Coney-Island, will be retarded-indefinitely by while that of China-herself-will-reap the ad. from serious fires was contrasted with the the sinking of the Kalomo, the fixtures and muterials for which, imported by M. A. Clarke and coming over on the vessel, having been lost. The wonderful scenic railway which was | we have not had time yet to look into to delight our wards old and young, at the the trade returns of China-since then, it great Tondo playgrounds, has found a resting | is probable that her exports have been showing, as well to point out that the conditions which place at the bottom of the sea, a plaything for an increase on preceding years. The trade of provail in Hongkong are hardly analogous to

ation and at four o'clock in the afternoon receiv-No details are given.

Another Opium Monopoly.

ATTEMPTED FORMATION AT KIANGSU.

CANTON'S EXAMPLE EMULATED.

The frustration of the Government opium creation at Canton, and the more recent removal: of the; restrictive regulations directed against the raw opium trade in Swatow and the outlying prefectures of Waichow and others. have not deterred the Provincial Government of China from raising barriers in the way of the, corps, attired in full marching order, the opium trade as conducted by British traders in pursuance of and in strict accordance with noon to Shau-ki-wan, where they were joined | the stipulations formally provided by Treaty by a detachment of the Taikoo volunteers. between the Governments of Great Britain

> Private telegraphic advices have just recently been received in the Colony by a leading firm of opium merchants from their Shanghai office reporting that native dealers had had informa tion that the Provincial authorities in Kiangsu good offices of Sir John Jordan in Paking being a Provincial monopoly to the detriment of

· Since the interest in the onium trade is so closely bound up and the links in the chain of with a sheer drop of fifty feet on the outer edge. | commercial connection to tightly forged for the entire length from Calcutta to North China, we dealing in opium are watching the result of dip lomatic negotiations with close interest.

BOX FACTORY ABLAZE.

Fire was discovered on the second floor of two-storey brick building at 15, Sai Wo Lane, West Point, shortly before eight o'clock last Monday night. But for the first floor, which was occupied by a family, the ground and second floors were owned by a tea box manufacturer, which contained a great deal of paint, varnish and glue, which caused the fire to spread

When the fire brigade arrived, in charge of Police Sergeant Brennan, with Inspector Robertson, of No. 7 Police Station in charge, dense smoke was issuing from the windows. but little or no flame was to be seen. fire-fighters made every effort to keep the flames away from the adjoining buildings, the occupants of which were by this time in a great state of alarm. In this they were successful, and it was before ten o'clock that the fire was extinguished.

Our representative was given to understand the origin of the fire was caused by the upsetting of a kerosine lamp, while under trimming

The damage done to the first and, second floors was estimated at \$1,000. The ground floor was simply damaged by water. The premises were insured in the Queen's Insurance Office for \$1,200.

THE PALL IN SILVER.

BAD EFFECT ON TRADE FEARED.

The quotation for silver has now fallen to 22d., writes the Tokyo Asahi. Such a pronounced decline in silver has not been witnessed in recent years. In 1906 the London anotation of silver bullion rose so high that it was feared the so sen Japanese silver piece sel, were 86,000 peros worth of goods for the | might entirely disappear from circulation, and bureau of supplies and 2,000 new books for the las a precaution against this possibility a reduc-American circulating library of this city. Vast | tion in the weight of the silver coin was decidquantities of Christmas goods were among the | ed upon and carried out. Since then, however, cargo and while the latter is probably fully a reaction has set in and a very low figure has insured, the many good things from the home I now been reached. The question that will sugcountry destined to bring Yuletide cheer to gest itself in the minds of many is the probable the hearts of the exiles will be missed sadly | effect that the present decline of silver will and the loss will be felt by merchants and the have on the China trade. It is inevitable that the export of cotton yarn, matches, marine pro-Messrs. Erlanger and Gallinger, of this city, | duct, and other sundry goods from Japan goods in markets elsewhere where they have clear that the fall of silver will have a prejudi-The opening of the Palomar Park, Manila's | cial effect on the export trade of all countries,

> vantage. year, continues the Asahi, and although

Manchurjan Steamship Company, plying Be that the Atlantic seaboard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and Standard and Oriental China trade, or the Parish and C

Yau-ma-ti Murder Mystery.

SUFFOCATED IN BED. MIDNIGHT TRAGEDY IN A MARINE DRALER'S SHOP.

Yesterday exclusive news reached us of a murder which was committed at Yau-ma-ti monopoly at Nanking, the defeat of a tentative | early in the morning, but owing to the lack of definite information we retrained from giving: the matter the necessary publicity. To-day, however, what particulars we required were kindly placed at our disposal by the police.

Shortly after seven o'clock yesterday morning the body of an old man was found in small back room on the ground floor of 40, Reclamation Street, Yau-ma-ti. The man had been dead for many hours, for his body was cold with rigor mortis; and it was clear at first sight that he had been murdered in a terrible

Blow suffocation was the cause of his death. His face was livid; his mouth was gagged with old paper; his tongue swollen; at the neck just behind the right ear, as we are given to understand, was a deep indentation, indicating severe pressure of a person's thumb, while his hands and legs were bound fast,"

It was impossible, owing to the scanty. furnishing of the room, which also contained heavy pieces of old iron, to discover whether | drawing up of the petition, there was any struggle or not; but there is no doubt, taking into reckoning the manner in which the man met his end, that there had been a fight, which had proved fruitless as far

The body was identified later in the day as that of Lam Chang, aged fifty, and until recentporting themselves in that slap-dash devil- felt by the opium hongs in Canton when the ly he was a marine hawker of Reclamation may-care, die for your-country style which we restrictive regulations were issued in September | Street and a bill collector for other dealers in

No. 40. Reclamation Street is a threestation, and within close distance of the police station. The first and second floors are oclet to Lam Chang, who was known in the district as a well-to-do man-mainly through

what he collected for other dealers. According to the facts which we have gathered. Lam Chang, who was a bale and hearty old he alone slept in the premises after closing time. It was about seven o'clock on has accepted the Hon. Presidency of the Con-Sunday morning that he was last seen, and at that time he was behind the counter transacting what business came along.

From an inspection made of the building by the police no marks could be found on any of the doors of the house as to lead them to suspect that the murderers had forced an entrance, and it is presumed that the main door was unlocked when the visit was paid. The suggestion put forward was that the robbersfor robbery was the motive of the crime—attacked the old man in bed, and, after binding and gagging him, looted the premises.

The tragedy, which was discovered by a police, and Inspector McHardy, in company dead body lying on the tiled floor. After have ing his remains sent to the mortuary, they hunted for a clue, but without any result, so far as we know. The officers searched bigh and low; they interrogated the fokis and neighbours, but nobody knew or heard of aby noise to indicate that a crime of such character was being spacted under their very beds. The marine dealers' tranks were found open, but his clothing seemed untouched, and it is not known whether he had any money in those tranks at the time his life was taken for the robbers to carry away.

The folice confess that there is not a single clue for them to work-on. Nobody had seen the robbets come; nobody had seen the murderers go; and so far as matters stand at the esent moment the police are helpless, and the Reclamation Street murder is another to be added to the list of mysterious tragedies committed in Hongkong.

THE NEW ASTOR HOUSE.

ERECTION OF WATER CLOSETS.

An application from Mr. G. J. B. Sayer for permission to erect two water-closets on the 3rd and 4th floors of No. 13, Astor House, was considered by members of the Sanitary Board last Tuesday afternoon.

The Medical Officer of Health minuted:-The additional water closets proposed are for the convenience of the Hotel guests. It does not mean that some excretal matter will be dis charged into the sewers. The rooms it is proposed to erect the four, new water closets in open directly into the external air. I think the Board might reasonably allow the water closets but would advise that for the sake of cleanly ness, the partition shown in the plan should not be of wood but of brick and expanded metal rendered smooth with cement and tiles, and also that the type of water closet basin to be put in should be first approved by the Board. Water closets have recently been but into buildings in the Colony of very poor design.

The Hon. Mr. R. A. Howett :- Erect, subject to the usual conditions as to water supply. The Director of Public Works:- The gradient of the pipe connecting with the vertical soil pipe might be improved.

'HR FIRB-FIUND IN SHANGHA HONGKONG'S ESCAPES FROM DISABLES EXPLAINED.

Recently an editorial appeared in the Tele graph bearing the above caption in which the comparative immunity enjoyed by this Colony frequency of serious outbreaks lo. Shanghai. Silver began to decline in October last After quoting the leader in question, the Shanghat Times adds the following comment !- .

We have no desire to take the writer to task as to the soundness of his deductions, but it i the pranks of the finny denizens of the deep. . all other countries has shown a decrease since | those obtaining here. With the approach of The first intelligence of the disaster was re- | the autumn of last year, when the business where in the Settlement fires naturally become coived in Manila yesterday morning by the ex- | depression began to show itself, but presum- | more frequent, as the climatic conditions neecutive secretary in a cable from the bureau of ably China is an exception to the general rule. | cessitate the use of household fires to a far Insular affairs at Washington, the American At least China's export trade has probably not greater extent than in Hongkong. Many conspi-general at Singapore having communi- suffered any diminution if it has not actually of the fires which unfortunately result in cated the tidings to the latter by wire. Messrs. | increased. Probably the demand in America | the destruction of property are the result Warner, Barnes and Company, the local agents | for Chinese silk, tes, matting, etc., has not of carelessness, as investigations have provfor the vessel, at first sceptical about the report | decreased in consequence of the unfavourable | ad. Of course, there are suspicious fires owing to the absence of news from Singapore | economic situation in that country, for in occasionally but not nearly to the extent cabled to that place at noon, requesting inform- respect to exchange China has been enjoying inferred by the tone of the comment in the Tree an exceptional advantage such as that legroph Our local Police does its duty efficir ad a reply confirming the loss of the vessel. | enjoyed by Japan seventeen years ago, ently and the frequency of fires in the Settle. Japan, however, is not in a position to enjoy | ment cannot be laid to their discredit, nor can The Kalomo left New York on November 18 | such an advantage at present, and it is evident, It be suggested that the Fire Brigade is in the and coming by way of Singapore, was due to for example, that Japanese raw silk, tea, mat- slightest degree lax in its methods. For efficiarrive here on December 22. The vessel ting, and other goods which have to compete ency the Shanghal Fire Brigade need yield to was a modern beight carrier built only against similar classes of Chinese goods in the none; as a Volunteer organization we have yet the sessions, after the case in hard was conlast year of 5,010 tons, displacement, at American market, will be put under great dis- to learn of its peer. We should certainly wel- pleted until January 4th, 1909, Justons are Post Glasgow by R. Dancas and Company, advantage. Herein may be sought one of the come any suggestions which our Hongkong requested to attend on that date. causes for the inactivity of Japan's export trade | contemporary could layout us with, if they

Spitting Nuisance.

CHINESE TO PETITION SECRET ARY OF STATE.

MEETING OF THE COMMERCIAL UNION

rizai bace As stated in our last evening's issue. .. meeting of the Chinese Commercial Union was bold this afternoon under the presidency of Mr. Chang Kang-yu, to discuss the recent amendment of the Magistrates Ordinance making spitting in public places a misdemeanour, punishable by fine. There were also present at the meeting Messrs. Chau Siu-ki, Poon Yan-chuon, Li, Po-kwoi, Chan Sin-pak, Siu Fai-yuen, Lee Chuk-yue, Ho Siu-chow, S. W. Tso, Ku Fai-shan, Shi Yuman, Gheong Sam-wu, Wong Yiu-tong, Li Yau-chuen, Chan Cheuk-bing, and Leung Ping-

After discussion, it was proposed by Mr. Poor Yan-chuen and seconded by Mr. Li Po-kwei, that a petition, be formulated and transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies against the recent legislation making the nuisance a punishable offence.

The resolution was unanimously carried. A committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, viz., Messrs, Chang Kang-yu, Chau Siuki, Poon Yan-chuen and Chan Slu-pak, was appointed to obtain legal assistance for the Shipping Companies pay for the actual cost of

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Further letter from the London Chamber considered at the monthly meeting of the Hongkong Chamber on the 5th inst.;-Oxford Court, Cannon Street,

London, 3rd November, 1908. Dear Sir .- I beg to confirm my Circular letter of the 26th June last informing you that the Seventh Congress of the Empire will be held in Sydney, N.S.W., commencing on the 1 14th September, 1909, and giving particulars in regard to the general arrangements to be made for the convenience of delegates.

. I have now pleasure in stating that the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia. the Right Hon, the Earl of Dudley, G. C. V.O.

I. You will, I feel sure, roulise the importance of deciding as early as pass bleat least upon some of the delegates who will represent your Chamber and of the desirability of those delegates informing me, through your, of their intention to visit Australia, as well as their prospective plans for the return journey. Nominations are reaching me frequently now, and shall begind to hear, as early asconvenient, fromall Chambers, in order that I may keep the Committee in Australia fully informed as to the Members that may be expected &c. I am appending to this letter details of the reducshookeeper, was immediately reported to the tions which will be granted by the various Steamship Companies and the Routes which with Detective Inspector Watt (No.-22)-visited-may be followed. These include facilities for the house, where they found the marine dealer's visiting Japan, Hongkong, India &c. on the homeward journey whilst arrangements can no doubt be made, if so desired, for a more extended programme.

I am further instructed to request that your Chamber should commence," as early as convenient, the consideration of the resolutions which they may desire to bring forward, and that the same may be transmitted to me without delay. A .preliminary draft of the programms of Resolutions to be submitted to the Congress will be circulated, following the usual custom, early in 1909. unnecessary for me to say that the Resolutions to be submitted to the Congress must be such as will be of interest to the Empire. as a whole, or to more than one portion thereof, and not in any sense local in bearwhich were discussed at the 1906 Congress, and which will no doubt be of assistance to vour Chamber in approaching the matter, though it is not intended to be in any way complete:-Arbitration, Bills of Lading, British Capital in the Colonies, British Commercial Agents, Cable Communication, Canadian Bankruptcy Law, Canadian Railways, Catalogues. Colonial Dutles on Certification of Origin, Codification of Commercial Law, Colonial Survey, Commercial Education. Commercial Relations between the Mo-Commercial Travellers' Taxes, Consular Service. Decimal System of Weights, Measures and Currency, Defence of the Empire, Emigration, Fast Steamship Services, Gambling in futures, Imperial Council. Imperial Penny Postage, Importation of Canadian Cattle, Insolvency Law, International Exhibition, Light Dues, Merchandise Marks, Most-favoured nation treatment for British Colonies, National Indemnity in time of War, Naturalization Laws, Newfoundland, Parcel Post Rates, Patents Copyright and Insolvency, Postal Rate on Imperial Publications, Realization of Small Estates, Rebates, Registration of Firms, Ship-&c., Surtax in Venezuels, Surtax on Rum,

Surtax d'Entrepot, and I ransport. I must add that the London Chamber will probably place on the paper resolutions on some of the following subjects vir :- Commercial Relations between the Mother Country. her Colonies and Dependencies: Defence of the Empire : Emigration : Arbitration : Inter-State Commercial Awards; Cable Communication; Commerical Education; Colonial Duties on Catalogues; Certificates of Origin; Meychandise Marks: Parcel Post Rates.

I am also sending, for your guidance, a copy of the Report of the last Congress, so that the new Resolutions may as far as possible be continuous and in keeping with the previous procedure.-Yours faithfully.

(Sgd.), KENRIC B. MURRAY, Secretary.

Enclosure will be found on the table. It was decided to reply that the Committee. at the moment, were unable to say definitely whether it would be possible to send a delegate to represent the Chamber, but in the event being possible no arrangements as to the movements of the delegate were necessary as ness connections in the Commonwealth...

> CRIMINAL BESSIONS ADJOURNED.

CHIEF JUSTICE.

Before the Criminal Sessions resumed on the soth inst, the Chief Justice said that he had seven or eight days work in hand and only three days in which to do it. He would adjourn

Laichikok Observation Station.

GOVERNMENT'S NEW REGULA TIONS.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S PROTEST

The Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce brought to the attention of the Committee on the 5th instithe additional regulations to Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance (No.to of 1899) made by the Governor in Council on 25rd November, 1908, under section 23 of the above Ordinance.

The Chairman pointed out that under the new regulations the owner of infected vessels placed under observation would be subject to such expenses as the cost of lymph disinfectants, water, lighting, police guard nurses, wardmasters, medicines and medica comforts, &c., &c., in fact the whole cost of Observation Station.

It was considered that such an imposition would cause many owners to send their vessels when engaged in the coolle trade direct to such Coast Ports as Foochow, Amoy and Swatow to the detriment of the interests of the Colony. The Committee thought that the regulations

governing the port of Singapore under which keep of their quarantined passengers, for disir fection of the vessels, and for burial expenses only were more equitable."

Government made regulations obliging owners to set down infected passengers at a cer tain spot where they were detained at the wi of the Government. Government should therefore pay the cost of the up eep of such estab lishments which were maintained in the interests of the Colony.

The Committee decided to protest against the new regulations.

THE EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirteenth ordinary meeting of share holders in the above company was held at the offices of the general managers, at Shanghi on 15th inst,

There were present ;---Mr. D. Laudale (Chairman), Messrs, A. Mc-Leod, P. F. Lavers, and Ze Quay-ying (Direclors), and Messrs, C. R. Shaw, T. G. Drakeford.

G. F. Johnson, Jas. Kerfoot, H. J. Clark,

Samson. B. A. Clark, W. C. Murray, J. K.

Tweed, W. H. Barham, J. McKie, and A. Brooke Smith (Acting Secretary). There being a quorum present, Mr. A. Brooke Smith, who acted as Secretary, read the notice -convening the meeting.

The Chairman :- Gentlemen, Following the usual procedure at meetings in Shanghai, I. propose, with your approval, to take the report of money from his box. and accounts for the year ended October 31, The police at Shalin were soon informed of 1908, which have been in your hands for some

days, as read. At the last appual meeting: I remarked that the outlook could not be called brilliant, but that there were indications that the Yarn trade was assuming a more normal course and I have now to inform you that during the first six months of our financial year, demand for our prinnings left a great deal to be desired, but, in the early Summer months, the tide turned, and (Applause.)

tions from India. I trust that the proposed ap- mise. No particular stretch of imagination is ping Bountier, Shipping of China, Glassware, propriation of the balance at credit of Profit | required to realize how obnoxious the perpetual and Loss Account will meet with your approval. Presence of foreign troops in the capital must be and that you will consider a dividend of Tis. c to the Chinese, and no such feeling need be per share satisfactory. The General Managers | excited if the troops are on British territory. If and Renewals Account, the balance at credit of the new reign has been inaugurated with much that account which, as you will remember, was promise of peace, and it is fairly entitled to 7,702.34 on October 31. The writing down of of the old have been wiped out. farniture will. Lieel sure, commend itself to you, On special repairs and renewals, the sum of Tls. 15,574.53 has been expended this amount, besides covering the cost of numerous improvements, includes the cost of mechanical stokers for the four boilers at the mill. The stokers have been in working order for some weeks, and, in the saving of fuel, not to speak of a considerable abatement of smoke, will return good interest on the money spent. I don't know that any other items call for special comment. questions that may be asked.

solutions were proposed and carried without | who looked charming, was attired in a crea-

adopted as presented.

Murder and Robbery.

GRIM TRAGEDY AT SHATIN

INDIAN LABOURER BATTERED TO DEATH BY ARMED MEX.

There has been another grim tragedy in the New Territory a tragedy which was committed in a most horrible fashion. The particulars which have been placed at our disposal, though somewhat scanty, are clear, The dastardly deed was committed in a matched at Shatis, near the tunnel, and which was occupied by Indian labourers in the employ of the Kowloon-Canton Railway

Just before midnight on Saturday last, while those men who were work duty were abed-there were not more than three, it is presumed-one of them was suddenly aroused from his sleep by feeling a hand at his throat, and a blanket covering his head. Held down in such a manner and with the fingers tightening gradually around his neck the Indian struggled fiercely with his unknown assailants, but it was useless. For the space of a few seconds he heard a whispering, then the sound of a box being opened, and the footsteps of people hurrying from the shed. At this moment his throat WAS released.

Throwing off the blanket which covered his head and jumping quickly out of bed, the Indian saw a number of Chinese, all of whom were armed with choppers, running away down a path. The alarm had been given by this time and the Chinese pursued, but they covered up their traces in the darkness the hard traces

But the tragedy which had a been senacted on that dark, rainy night was yet to be discovered. After the chase had been abandoned, the men returned to the matshed and found the body of one of their countrymen lying on his bed-dead. The body was still warm, which went to show that, death had not overtaken him long, and it was evident that he had been murdered-murdered in a cruel way. A battered head was the cause of There had been a great struggle. The bed bore traces of the unfortunate Indian's frantic, but fruitless fight for his life. Blood was sprinkled all over the bed, and the roompresented a disordered appearance.

That robbery was the motive for the dreadful crime is a foregone conclusion. ". Here was an unfortunate Indian labourer asleep in his bed, with his hard carnings, something like \$250 in notes, in a trunk near him. And here was the Indian murdered and his life sav-

The assassins, who had no doubt got wind of the Indian's wealth, forced an entrance into the shed by means of the back door, and the theory advanced is that while they had their attention directed to the trunk containing the money, the owner awoke, and no doubt would have raised an alarm, which was not what the robbers, wanted. As he was rising from the bed he was struck on the head several times with a chopper. From the nature of the wound death must have been almost instantangous. Then followed the attack on the other Indian, as given above, and the removal of a small sum

the tragedy, and every inquiry is being made to discover the assassing.

FOREIGN GARRISONSUN

To-day the first batch of the troops that form the Inpanese garrison in North China will enabled us gradually to improve our margin in embark at Chinwangtao to return to Japan ; profit. At the beginning of August, the and by the middle of January the reduction. situation appeared to warrant our again work. will be complete, writes the N. C. D. News of ing the mill at night, and the necessary hands | 18th inst. Following close upon this decision having been secured, day and night work was | comes the news, apparently well grounded, that commenced on the 17th of that month, since Russia contemplates a similar step and that when it has been continued without inter- before long, almost simultaneously, it is said ruption, and materially helped the result for with the removal of the Japanese troops, the the twelve months under review. As you can Russian detachment will be reduced to thirty well understand, night and day work taxes our | Cossacks at Peking and ten at Tientsin. Only European hands to the utmost, and the General | a few days after this announcement has been Managers desire to take this opportunity of ex- made, we are told of Herr von Schön's aspressing their appreciation of the able manner surance that while it is considered inadvisin which the staff has overcome the difficulties able to make any change at present: of keeping the mill running continuously the German Government, fully intends to and of securing the record productions, which take the first possible opportunity of withthey have done; and which testify that the ma- drawing some, at least, of its troops from the chinery is in first-class order. (Applause). I am | Chinese captial. "Whether the United States happy to say that the outlook for the immediate | will also follow suit is not as yet quite apparent. future is encouraging—our production having but the probabilities would appear to be in favbeen sold for the first four months of our our of such a course. In these circumstances financial year, that is to the end of February, it may be permissible to recall the suggestion ther Country, her Colonies and Dependencies, at satisfactory day and night working profits on which has been made more than once in difour purchases of cotton, which cover all sales, ferent quarters, that Great Britain should remove and, considering the comparatively small stocks her troops from Peking and Tientsin and lodge in Shanghai of Indian and Japanese yarns, them in the now disused quarters of the Chicombined with the increasing consumption of neso regiment at Weihalwei. A year age Dr. yarn made in China," I venture to express the | Morrison, speaking at the banquet of the hope that we shall be able to continue to run China. Association in London, appealed to your mill day and night, and come before you | the Government to withdraw the North China at this time next year with a report at least as garrison. If that proposal is considered satisfactory as the one now under discussion, too extreme (and it must be admitted that for obvious geographical reasons, Japan's deci-During the year cotton was of a fair average I sions form no analogy for those of Great Briquality, but the crop of better grades was short, I tain in such a question). Weihaiwei would apand the deficit was made good with importa- pear to provide an admirable means of comproand Consulting Committee are of opinion that any further reason were needed for the withdrawit is advisable to add Tis. 35,000, to Repairs al of the garrison, it may be found in the fact that baugurated in 1905, being reduced to Tis. begin with a clear slate from which the errors

A FASHIONABLE WEDBING. GUBBAY-JUDAH

A very protty wedding was colebrated last Sunday afternoon at the "Ohel Loah" Syna, gogue, the contracting parties being Mr. D. S. Gubbay, of the firm of Mesars. R. D. Sassoon & Co., and Miss S. Judah, of "The Den." Rowith perhaps, the exception of Interest and binson Road. Despite the inclemency of the Fire Insurance, which, owing to our working weather, a large number of invited guests tornwith comparatively small stocks of yarn, com- ed out to do honour to the happy occasion. pare very favourably with the expenditure in among whom was Chev. Volpicelli, Consul for the previous year-interest being practically litaly, Messrs, Mrs. and the Misses Seth one balf what it was in the preceding twelve Mr. and Mrs. W. Logan, Mr. S. H. Dutton. it was likely he would be a merchant with busi, | months, but I shall be pleased to answer any | and B. K. Mehta. The synagogue was very tastefully decorated with evergreens and There being no questions the following red the choicest flowers of the meason, The bride, tion of white and carried a beautiful bouquet. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. The bridesmaids were the Misses Rebecca and C. R. Shaw : that the report and accounts be Ross Judah, sisters of the bride, who looked pretty in charming costumes. The bride was Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. given way by Mr. Ellis Kadoorie, while P. Crighton; that a dividend of Tis. 5 per share Mr. C. S. Gubbay, brother of the bride. groom, acted as best man. At the con-Proposed by Mr. H. J. Clark, seconded by clusion of the ceremony, the guests ad-Mr. Brodie A. Clark that the Consulting Com- journed to the Hall of the Jawish Recreation mittee as at present constituted, be re-elected Clab, where, following conventional custom for the current year,

for the current year,

Proposed by Mr. J. Samson, seconded by and heartily honoused. The wedding presents, Mr. T. G. Drakeford that Mr. G. R. Wingrove which were both numerous and handson be re-elected as anditor of the company for the were displayed in a prominent position of the appropriate worlding cake being the by the their streams and appropriate one divident Labor on the supervisions of the stream of the supervisions of the supervision of the supervisions of the supervision of the superv

Dec. 12. Dec. 11.

The Yarn Dispute. JUDGMENT FOR DEFENDANT.

STAY OF EXECUTION GRANTED.

alimithe Supreme Court, last Wednesday aftercoon, the Chief Justice, Sir Francis Piggott, been assessed. There is no personal covenant delivered his judgment in the action brought by Mesers. S. J. David and Company against their compredore (Mr. Chan: Ut Chiu) to recover the isum \$648.816.67 and interest at the rate of \$8 per centum per annum from the date the writ was issued and until payment or judgment. the other part being the compliance by the This large claim was alleged to have arisen in plaintiff firm with the request of the defendant "connection with dealings in cotton yarn, for to employ him as compradore. which, the plaintiffs alleged, the compradore

was liable. The defendant entered a counter-claim to intecover the sum of \$55,000, alleged to have been deposited with them. This was denied. 4 Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. instructed by Mr. MA: Gilackson (of Messrs, Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs. The defendant was represented by Sir Benry Berkeley, Kic.; with whom was Mr. J. Scott, Harston (of,

"Mesers: Ewens and Harston). In delivering his judgment; the Chief Justice said :- Messrs, David & Co. are suing Chan Ut "Chiu, the late compradore of the firm, for losses incurred by them in their dealings with Chinese customers which it is alleged were guaranteed sby the defendant. Before coming to the real upreliminary questions which must be disposed

ment between the parties, and that it was imnargument) is read as it was intended, it will be ncan assume to know is that the compradore aguarantees Chinese customers ; but what I said showed clearly that the extent of his suretyin which the agreement is drawn up: and I must now add (subject to what I shall say presently on this point) as also the remedies agreed upon for entorcing the obligamay have said in a former case on a point which was not argued in that case, even though what I said was material, and not obiter.

A good deal of stress was laid on the fact that there had been an admission of liability on the part of the defendant, in a declaration made by him in support of his petition to be adjudged bankrupt, on which patition the Court made no order. I laid down in Wong Ka Cheong's case that the utmost length to which the Jaw goes in the way of holding a man bound by what he has asserted to be a fact when it is sot: a fact, is in the doctrine of estoppel if it does not fall within that doctring, that is to say, if, no one has acted on the assertion to his prejudice, he may show that it is not a fact. In this case believing himself to be liable for the losses incurred by the firm, he made the statement in the abortive bankruptcy proceedlogs. He has since been advised that he is not liable in law; is he to be debarred from asking the Court to determine the question of law? Surely not. - But in truth the admission in this case was only insisted on with the object of making the defendant begin. I think there is no warrant for this contention; but as lithe case has developed itself seems clear that there is essentially a legal question only involved, and so long as the question I do not much care who begins. The admission has, however, a bearing on

the case which I think it advisable to refer to. (although, it was not I think put forward in argyment. Does not this admission show what was the real intention of the parties? I must confess that this question troubles me a little. Oan I give judgment against what is the, I will assume, clear intention of the parties? I do not think that there is any rule of law, however, which requires a Court to enforce the intention of the parties, assuming it to be ascertained alfunds, contrary to the meaning of the words as used in the agreement. The law requires the Court to seek the intention of the parties from the words they have to express that intention, and I think I am right in saying that, to take an extreme case, even if a man knew that certain liabilities were intended to be undertaken by him when he signed the agreement Bin question, yet if he finds that the agreement as signed does not impose that liability on him, he is not bound, there being, of course, no

mala fides on his part. These matters disposed of, it is clear that the action must rest on express agreement; and i order to prove this two documents were put in of even date 30th January, 1902. A mortgage -Certain leasehold property by the defendant to Mr. A. J. David, whom for convenience I will describe a mortgagee on behalf of the firm David & Co., and mayreement between the defendant and the firm, o, further securi-S55,000 was deposited by way or . ty with regard to the mortgage, the form. one of the partners being the mortgages and not the firm-I must confess seems to be pecul liar: in order, however, that no technicality should stand in the way of the determination of the actual rights of the patties I suggested

that Mr. A. J. David should be added as plain

"tiff in the action. This seems to me to

be at least advisable, as although the agree-

ment is the document sued on, the mou-

gage lies at the bottom of the action by reason of the cross-references between the two documents. Now with regard to the method by which the agreement has been effected, I am bound to say that I cannot see the necessity for this complicated piece of conveyancing for it stems to carry out what I will assume to be clear by what is very manifestly obscure. Clasum per obscurum. The plaintiff's case i that the compradore was to undertake certain obligations, and he was to give certain security by way of mortgage. There seems to be no obligations, and a mortgage in which the fulplexity of the matter. Instead of this, how, ever, some of the terms of the arrangement

this action is directly concerned. mostgages, with the following, among other,

e provisos for redemprion. Allf the compradore shall on demand pay to which less is incurred by breach of contract of

"M the compredere shall on themsed pay cortain other moneys in certain other eventualities which do not concern us in this action.

Then in these events but in these events only the mortgages will re-assign the premises to the mortgagor.

There is a power of sale on giving one. month's notice of the above demands; also a covenant by the mortgagor, in the event of the property depreciating in value. to pay the difference between \$45,000 and \$55,000, at which value the property mortgaged had apparently to pay the deficiency above alluded to.

But there is a reference to an agreement already prepared, to be signed immediately after the execution of the mortgage, which appears as part of the consideration for the mortgage,

The agreement of even date recites the mortgage: and that in order to further provide the security the defendant had deposited the sum of \$55,000 to be held by the firm on the conditions appearing in the agreement.

clause: it provides, in so far as it is material to

.By this agreement the compredore is engaged for 3 years. Paragraph 8 is the important the present action, as follows:dant flowed from the nature of the arrange- and the said \$55,oc : The words " all such moneys as aforesaid " mean all moneys due ported in the word "Compradore" itself. As under the mortgage or the agreement. As I possible. I think if my judgment in Chan Ki's | covenant to pay the amount of the losses in- are whether he is surety; if so could be gathered. The utmost that the Court I agreement can be treated as of the same effect as, and as if it were in fact the personal covenant of the mongage introduced; into the agreement. It struck me and still strikes me ship must be derived from the documents as curious that this point was not taken originally and the case rested on it; but the case was put in the following way; this reference in the agreement to payment of money owing, under the mortgage has this effect—that what is stattion of the surety. But even had I gone fur- ed in the mortgage becomes evidence of the ther, I could not hold myself bound by what I obligations which the defendant has taken up himself as compradore; it prevents him from saying that he is not responsible for any matters which are not set out in the mortgage. He cannot contend that these things which are included in the redemption clause are not part of the duties or obligations. After hearing the argument leam disposed to think that the plaintiffs' case cannot be put in any agreement says that the compradore agrees to | liest decisions of the Courts, and it may be pay what is for the time found owing under I that I have overlooked some occult principle the mortgage therefore the mortgage procedure. Which would tell in the plaintiff's favour. Al for finding out what is due under the mortgage I can say is that in the event of the case going

that this part of the agreement is practically gaged to a more profound study of the early useless as a clause importing of itself any pre- law than was possible before a Court of First cise obligation; that nothing can be found owing under the mortgage, as there is no personal covenant, but that the result of it is to leave the remedies under the mortgage precisely as they are to be found in the mortgage; that is to say that if this condition for redemp- | opinion. I do not think that I should be justice tion is not complied with the remedy and the | fied in directing a re-argument on the point, only remedy is provided by the mortgage it- It can be taken on appeal if the plaintiff is so self, which is foreclosure; and that therefore advised With regard to the counter-claim, it

taken. The scases and books throw no | tindal cash security of \$55,000 was so linked on find which helps in any way, is the statement in. the conditions; of the mortgage were also does not itself imply a covenant. But if this the plaintiff could hold the \$55,000 until is so then it disposes of the idea that the condi- the losses resulting from dealings with tions for redemption can be treated as coven- | Chinese customers were paid. But although ants. I hesitate to say that this carries us the | have searched through both documents I can whole way towards solving the difficulties in the | find only a few sentences which point that

covenants there cannot be evidence of co- the same question as is raised in the plaintiff's venants; but are nothing more than what case, and which I have already decided. Defenthey profess to be-conditions of redemption. | dant must therefore have judgment with costs on claim and for his counter-claim. The puzzle is to find out how they can by mere reference in the agreement to be liable for the moneys due under the morigage, become any. thing more than they really are even though these words are added, whether these moneys exceed in amount the value of the proceeds to

the sale of the premises and the \$55,000 security of the agreement, at something which is not owing under the mortgage can become some thing due under the agreement. How can an agreement to pay what is owing under the mortgage become a real agreement to pay a definite sum "Wien"there 'is" nothing owing

tion; but what is the value of the equity of redemption if the claim against him is far in excess of the value of the security? Again the personal covenant in mortgages for loans is said to be implied and the security collateral but this is because there is in fact a loan, and the mortgage has been given as security for repayment. There is outside the ordinary mortgage the fact that a loan has been given. "Every mortgage implies a loan; every loan a debt; and although there were no covenant or bond the personal estate of the borrower must remain liable to pay off the mortgage " (Coote page to) which means obviously "the debt implied in the mortgage to secure the loan:" Now, is it possible to draw any analogy between this doctrine and the mortgage given to guarantee the perform. nuce of suretyship? It seems to me that it is here that the plaintiff might possibly succeed. It seems to me just possible that the case of Exparte Bishop, to which I referred in Chan Ki's case, might carry the plaintiff through; but this was not argued and I cannot myself devise the argument if there is one. l can only express such opinion on the The \$55,000 is to be held by the firm as part | analogy as occurs to 'me. I' should be security for the due payment of all monies for | bound to hold that every such agreement as the time being owing to the firm by the compra- the one before ma implies the existence of a dore under and by virtue of the recited mortgage | compradore : that every compradore guarantees or of the agreement, and all such moneys may be all his firm's losses with Chinese customers; retained out of the \$55,000; but notwithstand- and that therefore an action lies to recover ing this the compradore shall be responsible for | these losses, that is, to enforce the suretyship question involved in the case there are a few and make good to the firm all such moneys outside the montgage. So we come back to as aforesaid whether the same shall not exceed | the point from which we started : I cannot at in amount the value of proceeds of sale of the present assume without more that these are the It was argued that the liability of the defen- premises mortgaged by the recited mortgage duties of the compradore. I cannot at present say, otherwise than colloquially, that the compradors is surety for the firm's losses their dealings with Chinese customers; that at present advised I do not think this is have said the mortgage contain no personal would be to beg the questions in issue, which case (which was referred to in support of the curred by the firm in their dealings with Chinese is the extent of the suretyship? What are the customers; and the question which somewhat obligations he has undertaken? . What are found that I carefully guarded myself from perplexed me and which I directed to be re- the remedies agreed to for enforcing thesa using words from which such an inference argued is, whether this stipulation in the obligations? The compradore system is based upon express agreement, that is to say, agreements for undertaking liability have been entered into between European firms and a Chinese intermediary between them and the Chinese customers, and this intermediary has come to be called a "compradore." Test it this

judgment in this action and did not satisfy if

by execution. The mortgages's right is redemp-

way-are all compradores liable for losses caused by dealings with Chinese customers known or unknown? I really don't know, and certainly cannot assume it. So the mortgage here does not determine the extent of the liability, and by the agreement defendant simply covenants to pay the liability under the mortgage; therefore the liability is deft in the air. If then, the agreement is ineffectual to charge the defendant with any actual, or determined liability, and if there is no personal covenant in the morigage, nor anything in the combined documents which can be construed other than this ingenious way. On behalf of | into a personal covenant the only remedy the defendant it was contended that although | which the plaintiff has is that which the the two documents were to be read together, mortgage gives him against the property yet the express references in the agreement to which he has taken as security; and therethe mortgage cannot be ignored, and that these fore the proceeds of the property become are really disjunctive and not conjunctive. And | the limit of the compra ore's liability. the result of this is that clause 8 of the agree. What is so extraordinary, to my minds ment is no more than an agreement to be I is that security being intended to be taken for responsible for the moneys owing under the fulfilment of the obligations of the comthe-mortgage-which-brings-us back to the pradore, as surety of the Chinese customers point from which we started. This conten- | the liabilities which he is allowed to incur on tion then takes this form : that the only | the supposed basis of the suretyship far exceed way in which the moneys owing under a mort- I the amount of the security. It is just because gage can be ascertained is by foreclosure; and of this—assuming it to have been the intenas there is no covenant to pay the losses incurr- tion of the parties-that the personal covenant ed by the firm, the remedy is limited to fore- should have been inserted; and it is because of closure, and there is no liability beyond the this that this complicated question has had to actual security taken. As it is important to be argued. I have been compelled to express emphasise the real issue raised by the defend. I an opinion upon it with such materials as were ant I will amplify this contention : it is not I laid before me, together with such light as my merely that as the action depends on reference | own researches among the authorities threw I can get at the true law which ought to decide in the agreement on a condition of the right of upon it. I cannot profess to be satisfied with redemption, the proper form of the action is the result because I am uncertain whether foreclosure instead of an action on the agree- have got to the bottom of the matter, for the ment. It is not merely that because the law of mortgages goes far back into the car-

must be adopted. It goes much further: it is | further I must invite the learned Counsel ou-Instance. With regard to the case of Ex parte Bishop to which I have referred, must not be understood as expressing an opinion one way or the other as to bearing on this case, nor have I formed any the remedy in the absence of express covenant | by no means follows from what I have said to pay the actual amount of the losses is that the defendant is necessarily entitled to limited to the amount of the security judgment on the counter-claim. If the addilight on the question the only passage I can with the security given by the mortgage that Coote (p. 9) that, it is clear that a mortgage, the conditions for releasing the security, then.

present case; but it certainly goes a long way | way, but none which justify me in coming to towards meeting the argument "that what is I that conclusion. Clause II of the agreement stated in the mortgage becomes evidence of refers to the fulfilment of the obligations of the the obligations which the defendant has taken | compradore, that is to say, the obligations of the upon himself as mortgagor. If they are not | mortgage and the agreement, which only raises

> At the conclusion of the judgment, Mr. Pollock asked for a stay of execution in order to allow the parties to consider the case. Sir Henry Berkeley had no objection. A stay of execution was granted for three

CHINESE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR.

. In stating that one of the principal articles This being prised off, a man crawled out, who under the mortgage? It seems to me that of native importante the North China proto call these conditions of redemption winces is sugar, Vice-Consul Ernest Vollmer "avidence of the compradore's obligations" is writes from Tsingtan :-Although among the as account of himself. to put them on a lower plane than is essential average pative consumption of this article may to support the action. The ungresement refers |-be regarded as a luxury, it is nevertheless | taro, aged 33, and a native of Tamba province, form of deeds; an agreement setting out the to them as obligations, and these they are not, a food product which more and more people He stated that he came to Kobe about a year and unless they are obligations they cannot be are getting to use and which is growing ago to find work and was engaged by the sued upon. Some stress was laid on clause 12 indispensable to an ever-increasing part of Kawasaki Company for their cast-iron works. A letter was read from Mr. C. A. V. Bowra Produce Syndicate, Faich was recently formed. minimum on the opposition. The additional security by way of the agreement, which provides that the enof cash deposit does not add much to the com- tries in the firm's books are to be conclusive one is cane, coming from the southern proevidence against the compradore both of the Princes of the Empire, with Swatow as the Hyogo, his mother being in the service of a in acknowledging receipt, to express to Mr. the finds of the syndicate is eligible to befact of sales and of losses incurred thereunder, leading source of supply for Shantung. Unto family at Osake. Vamada learned that evil Bowra the Council's regret at his departure, Lomo a member, By this arrangement, brokers, But this cannot turn the other clauses of the flood brown sugar is still far in the lead, but | things were being said about him, and thanking him for the services he had not be the s bodied in the agreement, and some are made agreement and some are made agreement. It would naduly complicate this billity assumption of the completion of the completi foogment if I were to refer to key other term | the amount which would have to be paid as the 'upss to their country. They take the taw sugar eat no more lood, and subsisted on roke and valuation of property in the Settlement, and The strangement than the one with which condition for edemption. The text books deal to their refineries in Japan, and after lemonade along hoping for death every day, the secretary was instructed to write and thank chelsely no far as I can see, with mortgages to purifying sgale, find China to be their On Tuesday he had a shave and his half cuit, I the Commissioners for their labours in the The mortgage atsigns certain property to the sectors whom p the talk is always about refray. Dest customer. In this way, they secure for the last time as he hoped, and toen went matter. ment of the principal sum, and they go so far profits from the transportation to and from and purchased a packing a cooanto say that "every mortgage implies a load," | Japan, for processing the anger, and naturally lie with him, he carried the box to Rge yama which, it is clear, this mortgage does not. also take a profit on the article itself. It is and dug a large hole about six feet deen, in In the Mixed Court since the last meeting, as the Then the other mortgage terms with which we probable that several small refineries will soon which he put the box, Giving the could be Court had been closed owing toy the Chinese by the firm with Chinese buyers whether mortgagers right is foreclosure; the context of declines to exercise it because the properties from best incomed by the breach of contract or declines to exercise it because the properties from best in a possible of the box, while the cooling and filled up the lid according to his directions. declines to exercise it because the pro la need here, strong competition from best lid according to bis directions and filled up the perty has depreciated and he prefers to seger pay be looked for in a few years. The hole, with earth, leaving a pipe to supply the suit of the starved in death.

The man was handed over to the care of his and not sure what he thinks he can do with price, sor caring whether it is came or best. The man was handed over to the care of his the mortgage when and if he were to get his sugar.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO. In the early days that followed the accession

HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND.

At the 68th ordinary general meeting of the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company which was to be held on the rath December, the directors, after providing for the usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. Per annum on the preferred stock, were to recommend a dividend on the deferred stock of 61 per cent. for the six months, and a bonus of 3 per cent, making, with the interim dividend of 31 per cent, paid in June, a distribution on the deferred stock of 13 per cent. for the year, on a total distribution of 9 per cent on the paid-up

THE SUGAR TAXATION.

INCREASED TAX LEADS TO REDUCED RECEIPTS IN JAPAN.

The Quaka Manichi points out that the prediction that the increase in the tax on sugar early this year would more likely reduce than increase the revenue from this source has unfortunately been realised. The advance in the price of sugar consequent on the increased tax has resulted in a decrease in consumption, and it is now reported that the Government failing to obtain the estimated amount of revenue from the Sugar-tax, has been exercising a more stringent examination than ever of imported sugar, with a view to offsetting the deficit, in the revenue caused by the falling-off in the consumption of the article. The rate of excise is particularly beavy, on the third and fourth qualities of refined sugar as defined in the Sugar-tax Law. On the third quality the rate is Y7.50 and on the fourth quality Y to. Taking the present market value of untaxed sugar at Y6 to per too kin, the ratio of the tax on the third quality is 116 per cent, and that on the fourth quality about 160 per cent. O all commodities, with the exception of monopoly goods, sugar is the only article on which tax is imposed higher than the original value. Sugar is an article indispensable to human life, but the advance in price is fast reducing the demand, which is being met by the production of inferior qualities. As a result the sugar business is experiencing great difficulties. I the demand for sugar is materially reduced, the revenue from this source will show heavy deficit, even though the excise be increased. The Government will have to devise means to balance the deficit in the revenue. and the authorities are no doubt within their rights in exercising stricter examination of imported sugar. It is however, by no means easy for ordinary Customs officials to distinguish the various qualities of sugar according to the Dutch standard of colour. Even those who have been engaged in the augar industry find it extremely difficult to distinguish between Nos. 7 and 8 or Nos. 15 and 16. It is an injustice to importers the authorities prosecute them for making 'a false declaration, when a quality which has been imported and passed by the authorities as first quality is afterwards, as the result of stricter examination, declared by them to be a superior brand. Such a procedure is calculated to kill business. This year the import of refined sugar shows a heavy decrease, but, owing to large supplies coming forward to avoid the new duties, the import of crude sugar has in no way decreased, though a heavy falling-off will undoubtedly be seen in this direction before long. As the result of the development of the sugar industry in Formosa, sugar syrup produced in Formosa hext year will reach about 80,000,000 kin. Assum. ing 20,000,000 kin to be consumed in Formote. the remaining 60,000,000 kin will be imported into Japan. Besides, the greater portion of brown sugar which is produced in Formosa, to the amount of about 70,000,000 kin, will also be brought in. The development of sugar production in Formosa will seriously in which will provide the Government with serious cause for perturbation. As is known. foreign augar is subject 'to the payment 'of excise in addition to the import duty. A reduction in this direction, coupled with an increase in Formosan sugar, which is admitted free of duty and dealt with leniently at regards

excise, will seriously affect the Government revenue from sugar. The price of sugar is in no other country in the world higher than in Japan, It moreover, disproportionately high having regard to the conditions of life prevailing among the Japanese at present, and is only natural that the consumption sugar, so far from increasing, must be checked f it does not entirely dwindle away. The consumption of ame (malt) is extending enormously, as people are fast forsaking augar for the cheaper commodity. In the present circumsugar in this country is quite out of the question. It is unfortunate that the Government placed in difficulties by the decrease shown the revenue from sugar, but its distress might have been avoided had it refrained from adopting a measure which could lead to no other result, - Japan Chronicle,

BURIED ALIVE BY REQUEST AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.

Wednesday afternoon a watchman was passing sumes the government, is of the brightest .- A by Ege-yama, a small hill on the banks of the old Minatogawa, when he came across a mound of earth with a pipe protruding from the top. His curiosity being aroused, the watchman began digging to see what had been hidden there, and soon came across a large wooden box with a lid nailed on to the top.

was at once taken to the police-station to give The man gave his name as Yamada Katsu-

BARBITOATION IN CHINA.

of the youthful Emperor Henan Tung and the transfer of the rains of government (into the regard to the question of a constitution and, lows:accordingly, practically all cause for anxiety is one name more closely associated with the reform movement than any other, it is that of February

ed others, and enacted, first, that Boards were, in future, to have one President, and four Vice-Presidents, and secondly, that no distinction was, henceforth, to be made between Mauchuisand Chinese. A series of constitutional experiments inaugurated by Yuan Shih kai at Tientsin followed, among which may be anumerated the establishment of associations for discussing all matters connected with the introduction of local self-government, and general reorganization of judicial procedure, with the inauguration of a Hall for expounding the theory and practice of self-government. In July 1907 were held the preliminary and final elections to the Local Government Office, which was constituted on a basis of popular representation guided by official electicism. The interest of the story now returns to Peking where, it will remembered, events, during the period of H.E. Yuan Shih-kai's experiment, had tended to favour partment for drawing up regulations for Con- the construction of the Akashi mill. In con-On September 20 an assembly of Ministers was | thap Y25,000, which, renders' it very difficult prepare a scheme for Parliamentary Goyern- rely on a dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. by Yuan Shih-kai at Tientsin.

years and outlining the work to be BCcomplished during the interval. It is this beacon-light of the reform party that has now received confirmation at the hands of the new regime through the decree of December 3 Whatever opinion may be entertained regarding the readiness of China within the period pamed for constitutional government. it has to be admitted that it forms the only feasible goal for a reform movement. Before the lapse of pine years the country will be in a better position to gauge accurately its real require ments, and possibly to evolve some form government better suited to the Eastern genius than a frank imitation of unrelieved Western institutions. In the meantime, it is satisfactory to stances a further increase in the demand for find that the steps, if any, being taken along the path of progress are under peaceful conditions, The success of the movement depends to no little extent upon its ability to proceed cautiously. We may surely regard it as a hopeful omen for the new era in China that the Government should have decided to appounce to the country its intention to provide a tutor of English for the young Emperor. Among the many and violent departures from old traditions none is perhaps more symptomatic than this. If the new Regent contents himself merely with maintaining the rate of progress already achieved by the present movement, the prospect of a permanent edifice of reform being erected on a solid foundation, when the Em-The Jopan Chronicle, of 11th inst., says: -On | peror, conversant with a foreign language, as

> C. D. News KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL Johan Chronicia. COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 1st December, 1908. Present :- Mesers, W. H. Wallace (chairman), J. S. Fenwick, Huang Ts'an-thew, W. Kruse, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson, and the

secretary. and confirmed.

only one case, that of an assault, had been heard

C. BREKELEY MITCHELL

COTION YARN. DECREASED OUTPUT IN JAPAN.

The silver market, which had been improve hands of Prioce Chun there was strong reason | ing, declined again by 5-16, on Saturday, and for taking an optimistic view of the situation in | negotiations for a large export transaction which Peking, Nevertheless it had to be acknow. had been in progress were suspended. It is ledged that there was some room; for anxiety | feared in some quarters that silver may go down in view of the fact that considerable ignorance | below atd. American raw cotton was advised prevailed regarding the relations of the Regent at 40 sen lower on Saturday. This, combined and H.E. Yuan Shih-kai. The days of strictest | with the fower price of silver, discouraged mourning however, have come to an end and buyers, and quotations on the Osaka Yarn Exnothing has taken place in the interval sugges. | Change opened low. But rates being considertive of any hostility between the two. On the de excessively low, a slight improvement was contrary an important edict bas been issued | seen later, and the closing prices as compared proclaiming complete continuity of policy in | with those of the preceding day were as fol-

102.90 103.25 11 103.80 Yuan Shih-kai, and it must be assumed that The suspension of night work, or of the partial bis position remains unshaken, while his aims operation of spindles, as agreed among spinare those also of Prince Chun and the new ning mills this year, has resulted in a marked regime. The edict of December 3 has, in fact, decrease in the output of yarn. According to greatly clarified the situation. In it the Em- | the Asahi, the total output of year from January pire is assured that the promise of constitutional to the end of last month amounted to 80 1287 government given in the edict of August 27 will | bales. Taking the production for this month be redeemed in the eighth year of Hsuan Tung, at 75,000, the total for the year will not exceed and thus the ground is cut away from under 877,000 bales, a decrease of 107,000 bales on the feet of those who may have been inclined | the figures for last year, and is even less in comto make "reform " a justification for revolution. | parison with the figures for 1906, which amount-To-day it would seem, indeed, as if the danger | ed to \$45,000 bales, and for 1905, when the of revolution had been exaggerated; but it can- output was 905,000 bales. The export of yarn not be overlooked, that some danger certainly this year has been very unsatisfactory. Total existed, and it would probably have been in- shipments up to the end of last month amountcreased, if the conduct of affairs in Peking | ed to 151,446 bales. Taking the shipment this had been less able. The recent decree cannot month at 10,000 bales, the total for the year fail to be regarded as a powerful guarantee of will not exceed 162,000 bales, showing a decrease of 65,000 bales from that of last year, At the threshold of a new reign, in which re- and of about 100,000 bales as compared with form and constitutionalism are likely to be 1006, while the value shows a decrease of about most absorbing subjects, the moment is oppor- Y7,000,000 and Y10,000,000 respectively. Retune for a brief survey of the work already ac- | garding the export of cotton fabrics, the Osaks complished in this direct on during the last two | journal notes that the total value of the fabrics years. The starting point was the return of shipped this year up to the end of October was the Travelling Commissioners in July, 1906, Y12,000,000. With the exception of cotion and the appointment of a Commission to exti crepe," all other descriptions showed a amine their reports. On November 6 of that heavy decrease. The united efforts of year came the first tangible result, which the spinning companies to maintain the changed the names of some Boards, amalgamat- | market for yarn by reducing the output has checked the export and forced up the price of cotton fabrics at home. In this way the companies lost more by the decrease of export of -yarn and labrics than they gained in the auhanced market price of yarn through keeping down the output.

THE KASAOKA SPINNING COMPANY. The Kasaoka Spinning Company, which has transferred: its business, machinery, and plant to the Fukushima Spinning Company of Osaka, has dissolved. It is expected that the company will be able to distribute about Y100,000 in dividend to shareholders at the rate of about Y20 per Y50 share. The capital of the com-

pany was Y400,000 all paid up. THE SETTSU BPINNING COMPANY. The Osaka Shimpo observes that the Sellsu Spinning Company, which is exclusively engaged in spinning coarse yarn for export, not concerning itself with weaving, has no means the Reactionaries. On August to comes the of offsetting the falling-off in profit resulting decree on Racial Jealousies, followed, three from the inactivity, of the export of yarn. The days afterwards, by one inaugurating a De- company has locked up about Y1.400.000 on stitutional Government." Shortly afterwards, sequence, the net profit for the present period Yuan Shib-kai was summoned to the Capital. of the company has fallen off, being not more appointed, under the presidency of Prince P'u for the company to distribute a dividend satis-Lun and the Grand Secretary Sun Chia-nai, to I factory to shareholders, the majority of whom ment. This was followed, in October, by a decree | which was the amount distributed for the authorizing the establishment, of provincial last period. However, the company below local assemblies for the study of Government equipped with an ample telerve for the affairs, to be modelled on the one existing in | equalization of dividend, the board of directors Peking, and in December these assemblies has decided to add to the profit Y63,000, reprewere distinctly said to be "intended as the senting the surplus brought over and Yr co.000. foundation of the future Parliament." No very drawn from the reserve for equalization of definite advance on this was made during the dividend, which has accumulated to Yoob,000. first six months of 1008, but on July 22 a decreb | making a total of about Y238,000. Of this sanctioned the regulations drawn up by Prince | sum, Y20,000 is to be placed to the reserve and Ching and Prince Pu Lun in connection with Y173,500 to be distributed among shareholders the inauguration of Provincial Assemblies, as a dividend (at the rate of about 20 per cent. affect the importation of Java sugar, a decrease | membership of which was made to depend per annum), the balance of about Y44,000 being upon conditions very similar to those adopted I carried forward. The new Akathi mill. of the company is expected to be completed by March Finally, on August 27, came the decree or April next, and the machinery is now being definitely promising a constitution in pine installed. It seems a very short-sighted policy. even with a divideod equalisation fund in existence, to make so large a distribution as usual when such an unsatisfactory season has been experienced. COTTON YARN EXPORT ENCOURAGEMENT.

> A general meeting of the Cotton Spinners' Association held on the 12th instant bas adopted a measure to encourage the export of yarn, which is to come into operation on the ist next month, presumably to take the place of the issue of prize tickets. The plan is as follows:-Taking the total export nof warmat 12,000 bales per month, and dividing this quantity among the spinning companies in proportion to the amount, shipped by each company between July 1st, and October 1stst last, the company which ships more than the quantity allotted may operate spindles lying, idle to a sufficient extent to continue producing "such excess, provided that the yern so produced be shipped within a month. A company which ships more than the quantity prescribed without putting into operation spindles lying idle, will receive an encouragement bounty of Y3 to Y5 on each bale so shipped. The money required for bounty will be obtained by imposing a payment on coarse yarn 20's and under produced. Rach company will be at liberty to produce all and finer by operating its spindles lying idle. i. The real result of this scheme will be to raise the price of yarn in the home market and thus impose an additional burden on the consumer or else to sacrifice profits in order to encourage the export trade. 'Rither way the measure is wholly against the teaching of economics,-

2HB MARINE PRODUCE INDUSTRY.

FAILURES IN CSAKA.

It appears, that marine produce merchants The minutes of the last meeting were read in Osaka are in difficulties. The Osaka life notes that the regulations of the Osaka Marine contributing only Y200 to the fand are allowed to do unlimited busidess on credit for one month. Many brokers have gone beyond fliele resources and bave been reduced to a very critical position on account of the depression of trade. Recently three marine produce brokers failed and a number of others are in a dangerous position, while merchants are hecoming cautious.

Japanese papers report that the Motegi Bank, of Motegi, Hage district, Tochigi prefecture. suspended payment on the 8th instant. R.in stated that the adopted son of Mr. Yamistichi Heibel, President of the bank, came local in a share speculation, losting about Tooma Mr. Hackist, the minnager advance notery belonging to the bank to meet this difficulty, and the mosty could aprice recovered.

THE BANISHMENT ORDERS. A CHINESE MERCHANT'S RETURN.

One of the Chinese merchants, Chiu Shiupok, against whom a basishment order had boyn issued but not served owing to his absence from the Colony, has since returned. Mr. Chiu is manager of the Kung Wo Hong, Bonham Strand West; his firm deals in general merchandisc.

SHANGHAI COMMENTS.

The following editorial comments appear in the N. C. D. News of 16th inst. :- It is clear that the banishment orders, recently pronounced by the Hongkong Government against certain prominent Chinese in the Colony, who were balleved to have been 'indirectly connected with the riots that arose from the Japanese boycott, have been keenly felt by their co-nationals. Hongkong papers to date announce that a petition signed by 300 Chinese merchants has been presented to the Government on behalf of two of the exiles, who had already fled from the Golony before the warrants for their arrest had renched them." The Government's, reply was short and to the point. If the culprits would publish a full recantation of past errors and a faithful "repudiation of all future connection with the boycott, as has been done in one case already, they should be permitted to return. At the time the mail closed it was not known whether this offer was accepted thut the whole episode is interesting as a proof of the Hongkong Government's determination to check the boycott. No ulterior motive need be looked for in this determination. The plain fact is that boycotts, are even worse for the life of the Colony than riots ; and such decisive measures are certainly a step | quis L. Cusani. Visconti of the Italian cruiser in the direction of crushing them. Mean- Puglia," while the Tokio " Asahi" has opened a sharp attack on the Japanese Government for | ceive Taotai Liang Lau-hsiu, the Chinese its incompetence before a movement which it Consul-General of Australia, and also Mr. describes as seriously threatening Japanese interests. More than ten months have elapsed since the Tales Maru, affair, yet the boycott drags on. It may be argued that the American boycott lasted longer, but the trade of America-with China is but a small part of her business; whereas something like twenty per cent of Japan's total trade is done with Ohina. Politically speaking, North. Chine claims the lion's share of the Government's attention; but from a commercial point of view the South is far more important, and unfortunately the Japanese Government would appear to be totally ignorant of what goes on in the South. Thus far the "Asphi;" and but for a repetition of the doubtful suggestion that certain outsiders are concerned in promoting the boycott, the article appears to be fully justified. It now remains that the Chinese authorities should realize that the boycott is bardly calculated to benefit their fellow-countrymen more than it benefits the Japanese and where a foreign Government has led the way it is difficult, considering the elastic nature of Chinese law, to suppose that the native officials may not follow.

TRE OPIUM QUESTION.

INTERVIEW, WITH COUNT OKUMA

On Saturday, the 5th instant, the Rev. E. W. Thwing, of the International Reform Bureau, who is now on his way to sttend the International Opium Conference at Shanghai, had an interview in Tokyo with Count Okuma. Count Okume said :-

"It is a pleasure to meet you and to know your great interest in many reforms. You speak of Japan being a leading antion in reform, and of our good laws against opium.', would say that we remember that America has given us kreat aid in many of these lines of progress. When our first laws in regard to' opium were being considered we received much good advice from your statesmen. The principles and high ideals of America have been of much aid to our people. We owe much to your nation, and now rejoice in the good understanding and cordial relations between the peoples of Japan and the United States. The recently published agreement between our By profit on trading account countries is the cource of much satisfaction.

THE MARCH OF WORLD CIVILISATION. "The progress of civilisation, enlightenment, and new ideas, seems to continue around the world. Much of the early civilisation started from Asia, to enrich Greece and Rome. Europe in turn received from these sources the basis of modern learning, which has continued to increase in America. We have gladly received in our turn from the results of your progress and will gladly pass along what we have received to help again the progress and prosperity of Asia. The world nations are becoming nearer to one another now in the march of modern invention, until there will be no East or West and no great race differences. As we know each other better we find there is not so great a difference after all, and we as -kindred men are coming to realise the true . brotherhood of all people.

OPIUM IN FORMOSA. "You ask of the opium conditions in Formosa. ' We have our difficult problems there, but we are seeking to solve them. We hope in time to thoroughly get rid of the evil of the opium habit. It is being reduced each year, and after ten years much has been accomplished. The work cannot be done as rapidly as we would wish; we have an alien people to govern, but with the Government monopoly the use of opium is every year decreasing, oldsmokers are licensed and no new smokers are permitted. It may take fifteen years more to entirely overcome the evil habit." [From the particulars given in an article appearing in our issue of the 28th ultimo, it will be seen that the Count'is quite in error in this statement.]

"I believe China can accomplish the prohibition of opium. Her Government is sincere in the fight against the drug. She must stop the revenue from the opium and secure it from other sources. Much of that revenue is lost before it gets to the Government. China must prohibit the importation of opium; and the planting except for medicine under Government monopoly. It is a great lask before her. but China will succeed. All nations should aid her. The large growing of opium in Szechuen and other provinces has caused much loss to the opium trade from India. That trade is being reduced, but now if an excellent time for England to entirely stop uniter production in is the time to aid China by ctopping all opium

in much good. Care must be taken not to Interfere, with China's own internal affairs has her own internal problems to work out, but other nations can help in the suppression

his good letters to me on reform subjects; and shall be very glad to have him publish them, It will be a pleasure to receive other letters from you on these subjects and I wish you every success in your work of reform for the tollerment of manifud. - Japan Chronicle.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

On Friday His Excellency received Captain Baron Rubin de Cervin of H.I.M.S. Italian cruiser Vesuvio, who was accompanied by Comm. Volpicalit. "Also Captain Ackermann of S.M.S. Tiger, German gunboat, and Dr. Voretachz, German consul, accompanied Capt. Ackermann.

On Saturday His Excellency inspected the Western defences of Hongrong. He was accompanied by Maj.-Gen. Broadwood, Col. Darling, Lt. Col. Chamler and A.D.C.

There will be an official dinner at Govern ment House to-night to which the following guests have been invited :-- Korvettenkapitan Ackermann, Capt. Baird, D.S.O., and Mrs. Baird, Staff Surgeon and Mrs. Baiss, Colonel Bedford, C.M.G., P.M.O., and Mrs. Bedford Fregattenkspitan Boedicker, Mr. and Mrs. Boulton, Commander Buchanan, Capt Brierly. D.S.O., R.A., Capt. Baron, R. de Cervin, Mr. and Mrs. Montagu Eds. Dr. and Mrs. Evan-Jones, Capt. and Bt-Major Findlay, Rev. and Mrs. France, Dr. and Mrs. Grone, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hastings, Mr. King, Hongkong Police, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, Miss Mutter, Mr. and Mrs. Scott, Capt and Mrs. Worthington, and Captain Wurmbach.

The following received invitations but were unavoidably prevented from attending :- Mr. and Mrs. Crofton, Fleet Surgeon and Mrs. Beadnell, Capt: Clime, R.A. Comdr d'Estlenne, Brother Christian, Dr. and Mrs. Belillos and Mrs. Fox.

. His Excellency this morning received Captain Baron W. Hohenberg of the Austro-Hungarian cruises Loopard and Captain Mar-

To-morrow at II a.m. His Excellency will re-Harris, Commissioner of I. M. Customs.

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LIMITED.

The report and accounts of the South China Morning Post, Limited, for presentation at the sixth ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held in the offices of Dr. Noble, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, on Wednesday, December 30th, states:-

19th December, 1907. Gentlemen.-The Directors beg to submit their report for the year ending August 31st,

The debit balance of the profit and loss account as per the last The profit for the year ending gret August, 1908 in 33,63477

Leaving a reduced debit to be car-The Directors, Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs, G. O. Moxon, and J. S. Harston, retire according

to clause 83 of the articles of association, but offer themselves for re-election. J. W. Noele, Chairman. SCOTT HARSTON

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. for the year ended 31st August, 1908. depreciation written off ma-

chinery, type, metals, stores, furniture and library (averaging 7 per cent. per annum) ·\$ To directora' fees To European employees' outward and homeward passage To interest and exchange

To balance being net profit for year 33,634.77

543,421.39 By transfer fees

BALANCE SHEET, 31st August, 1908. Capital (authorised and subscribed) 6,000 shares at \$25 each 150,000,00 Bad and doubtful debts reserve..... Reserve for employees homeward passages Sundry creditors .-Loan mereterenseren 8,500.00 Wages, paper, stores, subscriptions in advance, etc. 13,428.06 Reserve to cover, sundry losses 2,000,00

\$174,274. Plant, machinery, type, &c. As per last account 60,956.23 Sale \$ 160.00 Clation 3,864. 11 50,931.12 Additions 7:555.97 Turniture, fittings, and fixture, as per last account 3,000,00

OPIUM CAMPAIGN IN CHINA. Less deprecia-Reference library. As per last account ... Less deprecia-_705,59 India and the trade to China. Eleland can Stocks of paper, ink, stores, etc...... 18,125,25 Filipino made a report to the Customs secret Bank account 2,856.37 from India to China. I think the Oplum Conference may result Insurance premis anexpired

The work must be done in a tactful way. China Goodwill-Victoria lithographic works (paid for in shares) as per-of the opium traffic.

Formation expenses (as per last ac-

International Reform Bureau, last year, I read | Profit and loss account (as per last account, Stat Aug., 1007) 90,337.44 Leus Profit for year end. iog 31st August, 1938 33,634.77

EMPEROR NICHOLAS II OF

RUSSIA. RECEPTION AT THE RUSSIAN CONSULATE.

A reception was hald last Saturday afternoon by Consul and Mrs. Tiedmann in honour of the Name day of the Emperor Nicholas II of Russia. Among those who attended the reception were the whole of the Consular Body. with the exception of the Consulfor the Nether lands, who is absent in Canton on official duty, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Cooper. Commodore and Mrs. Lyon, Sir Francis and Lady Piknoit. the Chief of Staff of the German Cruiser squadron, F. Boedicker, Commander and Mrs. Basil Taylor, Commander Wurmbach and Ackermann and Officers of S.M.S. Fuerst Bismarch and Tiger, Commander Meyern-Hohenberg Gottfried and Officers of the Austrian cruiser Leopard, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. J. Gomperiz, Prolessor of Botany Robert and Major P. Probyn. Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor, handed to Mr. Tiedmann a congratulatory letter from His Excellency, and Cap'ain Heathcole conveyed the regrets of Major-General Broadwood from being prevented by official dules from attending personally. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the function proved a suc-

MR. WOODCOOK'S APPUINTMEN

cossful one in every respect.

LETTER FROM GOVERNMENT,

The following letter from Government was laid on the table at the meeting of the Sanitary Board last Tuesday afternoon; Colonial Secretary's Office,

11th December, 1908, Sir. - I am directed to state for the information of the Board that; awing to the exigencies of the public service, it has been necessary for His Excellency the Governor to ap point Mr. Woodcock to act as Deputy Registrar and Accountant of the Supreme Court during the absence on leave of Mr. Lee-Jones, and that it will therefore be necessary for the present to continue the existing arrangement under which the duties of Secretary of the Sanitary Board are divided between Dr. Gibson and Mr. Craig. I regret that by an oversight this information was not conveyed to you prior to the last meeting of the Board,-I am, etc.,

F. H. MAY. Colonial Secretary. The Secretary, Sanitary Board, THE CHEUNG-SHA-WAN

> IRAGEDY. THE JURY'S VERDICT.

The trial of Chu Yuen Fuk for the alleged murder of Choi Yun at Cheung-sha-wan, on the 25th ulto, was continued at the Criminal Sessions on the roth inst.

The case for the Crown having been con cluded, Mr. Belilios (for the defence) stated that it was the deceased who first attacked the prisoner with the knife, In the scuffle deceased dropped the knife, and it was then that the prisoner got possession of The prisoner was thrown to the ground, he was being throttled, and being the weaker man he stabbed the deceased in self-defence. 'In addition Counsel submitted that there was no evidence adduced by the Crown to prove premeditation.

The Attorney General addressed the jury saying that the prisoner's story was incredible He directed the jury that their verdict was murder or manslaughter.

The Chief Justice then summed up, and the jury, after retiring, returned a verdict of manslaughter (with a recommendation to mercy) and sentence of two years' hard labour was passed.

FIRE AT LAI-CHI-ROK.

PRARKYT WAIRINDS BRIEFL DOMN'

A fire which would have proved disastrous t had not been for the timely arrival of the Fire Brigadobroke out fatly last Wednesday morning (at 5.45 a.m. to be exact) at Lai-chi-kok, near the tanks of the Standard Oil Co. at Stonecutter's Island. It may be remembered that only the other day a configgration took place in some godowns at Blackbead's Point owing to the carelesaness of some coolies, thus showing that Hongkong, like most other places, is not immune from the ravages of the fire-fiend. .] appears that the origin of the fire was due to a spark from the chimney just behind the oil tanks at Stoneculter's Island. At first, it seemed as if the oil-works itself were on fire and the sight of the confligration was a magnificent one as viewed across the water, huge tongues of firme shooting high up in the air for a considerable distance. The fire continued burning till 7.45 am, and there is no doubt that it would have done so for a much longer period had it not been for the prompt arrival of the Fire Brigade at soon as the alarm was raised. The Government firefloat also rendered invaluable aid in extinguishing the fire. Several matsheds were completely burnt down, among which was a contractor matshed and two belonging to Shewan Tomes &.Co. At the time the fire broke out, a number of coolies were engaged in working concrete blocks and the greatest praise is due to the fire-fighters in putting out the fire before it was given time to reach serious consequences.

OPIUM SMOGGLING. HEAVY SENTENCE

"You are degrading your own countrymen and you have been trying, to degrade others, Your act was a violation of the lew and a crime against your own countrymen and others and you should suffer punishment. You are sontenced to six months' imprisonment and to pay

a fine of Psoo." Such was the close of the Rubi opium smuggling case this morning in the criminal court, reports the Manila Times of 18th inst. Yung Ah Che, an employee on the steamer, was armarket at the present time being P800. The

court that this was the first time he had over landed in the city of Manile, He admitted 425.02 his guilt and begged for marcy, He prayed the court to sentence him to deportation or a fine or both, but to allow him his liberty and he would never again be found guilty of a violenan of the laws of the land.

CANTON DAY BY DAY

RESUR OF OPIUM LICENCES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 13th December. The issue of opium licences in the form the wooden boards to smokers should have com menced at the beginning of the roth moor but as these licences all bear the year of reign of the late Emperor Kwang Hau, they have now to be altered into that of Hauan Tung before they can be distributed. The Police authorities have given instructions to have the necessary alterations completed at an early date. The licences will be issued in the 1st moon of the next Chinese year.

CONSULAR VISIT. At 10 a.m. this marning the Viceroy received the Japanese Consulat Canton.

CONSUL GENERAL TO AUSTRALIA Taotai Liang Lan Fun, the newly appointed Chinese Consul-General to Australia, called on the Viceroy and other officials yesterday to take his leave. He will shortly leave here to proceed to his destination to take up his new appointment.

NATIONAL MOURNING.

It is an established custom in China that, or the occasion of national mourning on account of the death of any Emperor, no theatrical performance is allowed for a period of one hundred days. Last week the Yiu Shan Yul theatrical troupe failed to comply with this observ nce and gave a performance in the Trang thing district. The matter has been reported to the Canton officials by the gentry of the locality, where the theatrical effects of the troups have been detained.

robbery took place in a house belonging to one. Kwok Tung, in the Nel Tong village, in Par Yu, where the robbers carried away a large men, one named Kwok Ah Cheung and the other Kwok Ah Yiu, whose whereabouts have not yet been ascertained.

ARMED ROBBERY.

On the 8th day of this moon a daring armed

A GERMAN SCHOOL

. In the 1st moon next Chinese new year, German school will be opened in this city, at P. Hing street, in the Western suburb, under the directorship of a German representative here for the training of Chinese students in the German language. The proposed institution will be the first German school to be opened in the Southern Capital of China for the benefi of Chinese youths. Prospectuses are bein distributed inviting Chinese students to enter the school. The monthly fee is \$ for a schola and the course is one of three years. Students will also be supplied with stationery free of charge as well as books. Intending Chinese students must possess a fair knowledge of their own ignguage,

AN ENCOUNTER WITH ROBBERS.

At 4 p.m. on the 15th instant attempts wer made by the soldiers of the Lam Lo Mac camp, at Honam, to raid a house near Fung Wong Kong where some fifteen robbers wer then taking refuge. When the soldiers approached to surround the building, the robbers vicorously fought their way for life and all made good their escape by killing three of the soldiers and wounding two others; no arrests were made.

A RISING PRARED.

The officials in this city seem to be in a state of alarm lest the anarchists sooner or later break out in open revolt. Though four of them have been arrested and two were beheaded as reported yesterday, the high authorities have g'en strict orders to their subordinates to exercise their utmost vigilance in keeping a sharp look-out against surprises.

19th December. PROVINCIAL JUDGE. The newly-appointed Capton Provincial -Judge Wei King Tung took over the seal of

office from Cheung Shik Fun to-day. LIKIN COLLECTION. The total collection of Likin dues in Canton for the second too days of the 11th moon as

reported by the Likin officials amounted to 55;959.6.0.0 taels. RODDERS WANTED.

Recently, rewards have been offered by the Military Camp at Ko Tong for the apprehension of some fifty robbers in that locality; the rewards offered vary from one hundred dollars to several hundred dollars for each of them.

THE NEW BUND. On Wednesday last, a portion of the new band (about 120 ft.) opposite the Dutch Folly Island, collapsed; no other damage has been sustained.

CANTON MINT.

Expectant Prefect Ching Sin Chun has been appointed to be manager of the Canton Mint in succession to Mr. Tsoi Hong, as the latter has gone into mourning on account of the death of his parent."

PRISONER ESCAPES.

A prisoner named Wong Ah Kwei, who has been spending eight months in the Namhoi fail since the 4th moon last; when he was sentenced to imprisonment for one year, felt tired of remaining there any longer. Early yester--day-morning, he effected his escape by climbing over the wall of the cell, while the jail warders were still in their beds.

ARMS-RUNNING.

The officials of Klungchow have wired to Canton requesting the authorities to at once detail a government gunbout to that port to cruise in the locality in order to prevent the smuggling of arms and ammunition by the outlaws, who are in the babit of importing contraband articles into the interior by way of Klungchow.

21st December.

BLACKMAILERS BUSY, It has been frequently reported that robbers have recently been sending blackmailing letters demanding money from influential people and native as well as foreign firms inche vici nity of Canton, It is not long ago that the International Banking Gorporation in Shameen received a blackmailing letter from the robber chief Luk Lan Ching who demanded the payrested for attempting to sell one kilo and eighty. ment of \$10,000. The Corporation has now grams of prepared opium to a Filipino for P 100. | again received a similar letter bearing the signahas been forwarded through their Consul to the | Government for China. Vicercy for his information. The nature of This morning in the criminal court Yung, these blackmailing letters might have probably Ah Che pleaded guilty. He informed the aroused the suspicion of the recipients, but In order to save five cents, which it would have Ar about one o'clock last Friday night, an at-

the name of those robbets whose arrests they are longing for. When the letters reach the foreign firms, they will be forwarded through their Consuls to the Vicerby, and the latter, upon receipt of the Consuls communication will no doubt give immediate orders to his subordinates to hunt down the robbers,

ACTING PROVINCIAL JUDGE The Acting Canton Provincial Judge Cheung Shik Fun, after banding over the seal of office to Wel King Tung on the 19th inst, left here on the following day for Shiu Hing to resume his duties as Taotai of the prefectures of Shiu Hing and Lo Ting.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY

The total collection of the second call railway shares by the different institutions for the Canton-Hankow Railway Company during the roth moon amounted to 1,100,592 0.8 taels, of which, 189,231.6 1.2 taels was collected by the Oi Yuk Charitable institution; 216,00 tacls by Wai, Hang, .. 208,601.0.t.1 tacls b Kwong Chau; 180,650.1,7.1 taols by Kwong Yun; 116,970.0.5.7 taels by Shung Ching: 19,727.4.7 tacls by Ming Shiu, 23,495 tacls by Shut Shiu 10,563.0.3.3 taels by the Chamber of Commerce 82,625,2.0.0 taols from Hongkong; 26,000 tael from Fatshan and 11,520 taels from Macao Up to the present time the whole amount col lected since the opening of the lists for the second call of shares on the 1st day of the 7th moon is said to have reached the round sum of nearly \$7,000,000, a little over half of the sum.

H.E. MAJOR-GENERAL DROADWOOD. This morning, Major-General Broadwood arrived here, by the steamer Fatshan and at 1 a.m. to-day H.E. Vicerny Chang Jen Chur received the distinguished visitor,

220d December.

RAILWAY STATION PILLAGED. Two days ago, at g o'clock in the evening the railway station of the Canton-Hankow Railway at Yuen Tam in the district of Ching Yuen was attacked and ransacked by a gang quantity of valuable articles in addition to two of about twenty robbers. The robbers made away with a sum of about \$120 being the amount of fares collected on that day from passengers, together with the clothes of the workmen in the station,

A CHINESE FESTIVAL.

To-day being the Chinese winter solstire festival, the Chinese observed it as a genera public holiday; there will therefore be no issue of the vernacular papers here.

ANARCHISTS' DESSERT. The two men, Chin Chim Wing and Tsans Chun Fan, who were accomplices of the two who were behanded the other day, will be sen! to their respective districts to be imprisoned. No definite punishment has been meted out to them for want of sufficient evidence.

PROTECTION AGAINST PIRATES, " During the winter season the pirates are more active than at other times in the prefecture of Waichow, so the Commander in Chief Chuan Ping Chik has obtained permission from the Viceroy to build a dezen more guard-boats to be added to his force there in order to give adequate protection to the vessels trading its that locality.

H.E. MAJOR GENERAL BROADWOOD. General Broadwood arrived here yesterday morning and he will probably stay here for a few days more. This morning the distinguished visitor took a trip on those sections of the Canton-Hankow Railway already opened and he will to-morrow visit the different, prominent colleges in the city, H.E. Viceroy Chang Jenchun will personally proceed to the Shameen to return an official call on General Broadwood on the 24th instant, at 10.8.m., at the Britis!

THE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT,

. Admiral Li Chun will to-morrow make an inspection of the Kong Po Camp to ascertain | guardedly spoken of the situation in China and which of the prisoners detained there should returned noif-committal answers to a score of receive the capital, publishment and which of questions relating to the probable results of his them should be set free next year on the occasion of the accession to the Throne of the new Emperor Henan Tung, and to report accordingly to the Viceroy for his information and decision in the matter.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

A rumour is current in mandarin circles here:to the effect that the present Commanderin-chief Chuan Ping Chik will shortly be trans ferred to the Capital for service and that Commander Shing will be appointed to Canton to replace him.

PROPOSED PROHIBITION OF GAMBLING. It is reported from Peking that, while conferring with a certain high official, a Cantonese, the Regent suggested the abolition of the gambling practice in the province of Kwang tung, the vice existing in this province only at

A PRISONER'S ESCAPE.

A reward of \$30 has been offered for the recapture of the run-away prisoner, Wong A Kun who escaped from the Namhoi gaol the other day. The gaol warder has now been placed in the former's stead by the Namhol magistrate for neglect of duty pending the re covery of the prisoner.

At 2 o'clock to-day a fire broke out in Choi Lan street near Sha Kee and destroyed one house. The adjacent houses have also -sustained-some damage,

, 23rd December,

CONSUL-GENERAL FOR AUSTRALIA. Tantal Laung Lan Fun, the newly-appointed Chineso Consul-General to Australia, lest here yesterday afternoon by the steamer Charles Hardouin for Hongkong, en route to his de-

stination to take up his new appointment.

Taotai Leung's suite consists of only a few

mombars. CANTON GOVERNMENT ARSENAL Mr. Ha Tung We has been appointed by the Viceroy to be Director of the Centon Govern-

ment Arrenal. WINTER SOLETICE.

Owing to the solemn occasion of national mourning; the officials in this city, did not call on one another to offer congratulations yesterday for the festival of the Winter Solstice.

CONSTITUTIONAL COVERNMENT,

according to the opinion expressed by one of cost him in a tramcar from Kennedy Town to immoted burglary took place at the premises of the native papers here the other day, it would Causeway Bay, Charman Singh, a watchman Messra, Graça & Co., stamp dealers, situated in appear that no fear need be betertained, though of the Rope Factory, paiddearly for his meanness Des Vonn Road. An entry was forced by means? the letter contained various descriptions of last Monday. Charman wanted to come to town of a hole (a ft. by a ft.) cut in the back door. threats. The paper stated that the robbers on Sunday night in a tramcar, but, of course, did l'efore the would be burglar could lay hands would not be so daring and foolish as to ask for not wish to pay for the ride. His modes oper- on anything, the boy was roused from his amillion dollars which it is boyond doubt would and was this. He swaited the arrival of car sleep, which had the effect of driving Bill Judge Smill informed him that the only never be forthcoming, so it is generally sure proper way to deal with smugglers was to missed that the letter received by the Banking board at the rear when it started clutching to hitempt was made some three days ago the handle in such a way as to alight—and by trying to smash the show-window. Besides in a way that they would not soon lorget it. robbers, but from some people who had been probably burt himself—at the approach of the la slight mark on the page there is nothing to conductor. Charman was enjoying the cheap show that thiele have been prowling about the nounced Your Ah Che wanted to explain again plans are no doubt anxious to have their ride greatly, when he was grabbed by Mr. W. place with lutent to burglary, the burglar, evihow it all happened but his plea for mercy did anomies arrested and punished, but they are Glandianing, the traffic impactor, and ascort cently having been sudely laterrupted in his not avail. Commitment papers were made out anable to get the local officials to do so, falling and the was transferred to Bilipid to serve his which they have bit upon the plan of sending he did laughing, in the Police Court, on Mon. police who are taking the nacessary place to the particular to the plan of sending he did laughing, in the Police Court, on Mon. police who are taking the nacessary place to the particular to the particular to the particular to the police who are taking the nacessary place to the particular to the particular to the police who are taking the nacessary place to the particular to the partic

CHINESE GRATITUDE. TANG BHAO'Y! IN AMERICA.

gratitude of the Chinese people for remittance of a debt amounting to mearly \$14,000,000 Tang Shao Yi, a powerful figure in the affairs of the Chinese empire, arrived in San Francisco to-day on the steamer Mongolia. Thrice in the history of the oldest nation has there arisen occasion for appointment of such: a commission as is domiciled to night in the Fairmont hotel, and never has a foreign power been so strongly represented through diplomatic channels during the period of a crisis of world-wide import. In his honour the dragon flag flew to-day from the mastheads of a score; of vassels in the bay, guns mounted on the harbour front boomed out a salute, and thousands of his countrymen, silk-robed or silkhatted, thronged the dock where his escort

Conveying to the American government the

San Francisco, Nov. 22.

landed. Not until the Mongolia dropped anchor in the harbourdid Tang Shao Yi and his staff learn that the Dowager-Empress of China was dead. In Honolulu the cable brought news of the Emperor's death but said nothing of the dangerous illness that threatened the end of the Dowager's remarkable career.

LEARN OF CHANGES.

It was only when Hen Ping Chen, the Consul-general at San Francisco, boarded the steamer with a score of cablegrams from the Far East that the distinguished visitor was acquainted with the full extent of the changes that had occurred since his departure. Even the habitual Oriental reserve did not suffice to conceal his perturbation, and while dignitaries of the state and government awaited his attention, he scanned message alter message, apparently unconscious of their presence. In accordance with the edict of mourning, his entire party will remain practically secluded during its stay of three days in this city, and the local Chinese colony's arrangements for costly banquets and other forms of entertainment have been caucelled. In all other respects; however, the mission of the special embassy will be fulfilled and Tang Shao Yi. with the fifty members of his retinue, will go directly to Washington, where he will remain until after the inauguration of President-elect William H. Taft.

Accompanying the ambassador is Prince Tsai Fu, a youth of 21, a member of the royal family, a cousin of the late emperor and himself the most blue-blooded representative of his race who has ever set foot on foreign soil.

ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION. While he bears the title of first secretary to the embassy, his position is merely honorary, and his journey abroad, apart from its educational purposes, is intended as an additional recognition of the obligation conveyed in America's remittance of so large a portion of the indemnity awarded for damages sustained during the Boxer outbreak. Among the other

secretaries and attachés who are not distinguished by graduated rank are Yung Kwal, for ten years past connected with the Chinese legation at Washington: Chung Mun Yew. who has been mentioned as the possible successor to a post-high-in the diplomatic service, and Hen Shih. Yang, the military attaché. As advance guard of an annual delegation of students who are to be educated in America at the expense of the Chinese Government, came seventeen young men, members, for the most part, of patrician families, who will be entered at the University of New

York and the University of Washington, the Once during the day did the self-possession of Tang Shao Yi give way. This was several hours after his arrival, when he sat, clothed in a magnificentrobeof blue, in ope of the twentytwo apartments in the Fairment. He had visit to Washinghton.

MEANING OF VISIT. Finally he was asked to define exactly the meaning of his unusual position and his prince-

ly retinue. In reply ho said: " Believe us, we have no purpose other than to show the depth of heartfelt gratitude that the Rovernment of China entertains towards the United States for this fresh demonstration of good will."

At another point, while discussing the developments likely to ensue on account of the regency and the attitude of the United States. he remarked

If there are matters of such grave import to be decided, I shall doubtless participate in the deliberations. You must understand that during my stay in this country I outrank the Chinese minister, and some matters will probably be referred to me for consideration."

With these declarations, and the following formal statement, Tang Shao Yi completed the sum of his public utterances during the

"The news of our emperor's death reached us upon our arrival at Honolulu and overwhelmed us with sorrow. We hoped at first that the press dispatches might not be true. But a cable message from Peking soon confirmed our ward fears. The loss of our universally loved and respected sovereign is nothing short of a national calamity. The son of Prince Chun, brother to the late Emperor, has succeeded to the Throne, with Prince Chun himself as regent.

OBJECT, OF MISSION.

"The object of my political mission is to convey to the government and people of the United States the grateful thanks of the government and people of China for remitting a portion of the Boxer indemnity The generous action on the part of the United States in this matter has avoked an appreciative response throughout my country.

"While I am in the United States I shall take the opportunity to visit different parts of the country, especially to renew the acquaintance of old friends and places. I spent the days of my boyhood in New England, and bave not visited this country again since my return to China in 1881. In the meanwhile the United States has grown immensely in wealth, proscerity and power. At the same time vast changes have taken place in China. I have no The Viceroy has given instructions to the doubt that the pleasant memories of my former. officials in all the different districts in this pro- residence in this country, which I have dearly the actual value of the drug on the Manila tures of several notorious robbers asking for a the institution of Councils at an early date pre- ed by fresh additions as the result of my prevince to make the necessary arrangements for cherished all these years, will be greatly sprichparatory to the introduction of Constitutional seat visit, it is my intention to remain in Washington until next March.

Telegramis.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" BERVIOE.

CANTON-HANKOW RAIL WAY.

HUNAN-HUPEH SECTION. [By courtesy of the " Sheung Po."]

Peking, 18th December. H.E. Chang Chih-tung is deter-mined to raise a loan in England for the construction of the section of the Canton-Hankow Railway in Hunan and Hupeh with a view to its early completion.

A NEW LINE.

TSEUNG YEUNG TO HANKOW.

[By courtery of the "Shoung Po."]

Peking, 18th December. The Ministry of Posts and Communications has decided to raise a foreign loan for the construction of a railway from Tseung Young to Hankow.

> SZE-CHUAN-HANKOW RAILWAY.

UNOFFICIAL MANAGEMENT. [By courtery of the " Sheung Po."].

Peking, 18th December. It has been decided by the Ministry of Posts and Communications that the Szc.chuan-Hankow Railway shall be placed under the management of the people

DR. SUN YAT-SEN.

NOT WANTED AT BANGKOK.

By courtesy of the " Sheung Po."]

Singapore, 19th December. The other day when the Chinese residents in Singapore went into mourning (for the late Emperor.) Kwang Su) they were interfered with by certain revolutionists who created a disturbance.

The Colonial Authorities strongly reprimanded the leader (of the riot) Sun Wan (Dr. Sun Yat-sen)

Thereupon Sun left for Bangkok. The Siamese Governor, however, refused him an asylum within Siamese territory and ordered Sun out of the country fearing lest he might disturb the public peace.

Sun, accordingly, quietly proceeded back to Singapore.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN PEKING.

DESIRE AN IMPERIAL AUDIENCE [By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 18th December. The foreign Ministers in Peking having completed their period of mourning have addressed communications to the Waiwupu asking for a date to be fixed when they may be received in audience by the new Emperor.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY:

OHINA'S REPRESENTATIVE,

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

... Peking, 18th December. There will be an International Conference on Railways at Brussels. The Ministry of Posts and Com-

munications propose to appoint Jim Tin-yao as China's representative at the Conference.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

HUNAN-HUPEH SECTION.

[By courtery of the " Shoung Po."]

Peking, 20th December. H.E. Chang Chih-tung had a conference with Mr. J. O. P. Bland, of the British and Chinese Corporation, on the 18th inst., with re-Canton-Hankow Railway, Hunan- larities in the (native?) Customs in

Hupeh section. The agreement is about to be signed.

Chang Chih-tung has telegraphed to Viceroy Chang Jen-chun that there should be no delay in the construction of the Southern section of the railway and also saked for information as to the amount collected to carry out the following three on the second call. Should funds projects, viz: be deficient arrangements can be made for a British loan at the same time. He requested Vicercy Chang to forward an early reply by tele-

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" BERVIOE

IMPERIAL EDICTS.

HOW SIGNED.

[By courtery of the "Showing Po."]

Peking, 20th December. The Central Government has instructed the Press that, in publishing Imperial Edicts in future, there should be added at the end of the Edicts characters signifying "Sealed by the Prince Regent and signed by the Grand Councillors."

> CANTON-HANKO W RAIL WAY.

THE SOUTHERN SECTION.

[By courtesy of the " Sheung Po."]

Peking, 21st December. In arranging with Mr. J. O. P. Bland, of the British and Chinese Corporation, for a loan of two millions sterling for the construction of the Hunan-Hupeh section of the Canton-Hankow Railway, it was the intention of H.E. Chang Chih-tung to borrow, at the same time, a sum of £5,000,000 for the Southern section of the trunk line.

As, however, some apprehension rivers of Johang and Chunking. existed lest the Cantonese might offer opposition to the loan, it was ed the application. deemed expedient to telegraph to H.E. Chang Jen-chun, in the first instance, to ascertain the existing state of affairs in Canton.

CANTON-MACAO RAILWAY. CONCESSION CANCELLED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 21st December. The Waiwupu has notified the Portuguese Minister in Peking that the concession for the Canton-Macao Railway has been cancelled.

CHINA AND MACAO.

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHINESE CONSULATE.

. [By courtery of the " Shaung Po."]

Peking, 21st December. The Waiwupu has addressed a communication to the Portuguese Minister in Peking, stating that it is proposed to establish a Chinese Consulate at Macao to protect the interests of Chinese residents in that Colony.

SHANGHAI ARSON CASE. EUROPEAN FOUND GUILTY

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 22nd December,

8.30 p.m. . Paul Floer was sentenced to two

years' imprisonment with hard labour for arson. At noon yesterday, while on the way to gaol, prisoner escaped, and

was recaptured at midnight. Paul Floor was charged with feloniously, unlawfully and maliciously setting fire to dwelling-house No, 131, Range Road with intent

thereby to defraud on October 15, 1908. On arraignment prisoner pleaded "not My, H. P. Wilkinson (Crown Advocate) and

Mr. S. H. McKean appeared for the prosecution. Mr. F. Ellis and Mr. H. S. Oppe appeared for the defence.

The case was tried before F. S. A. Bourns, Erq., Acting Tudge, and Mesers. D. W. Craw. ford, W. S. Ridge, V. Jones, J. H. Osborne,

and E. S. Little, Jurors, CANTON VICEROY.

DENOUNCED BY A CENSOR. [By courtery of the "Shoung Po."]

Peking, 28rd December. a memorial, denounces Vicercy Chang £2,000,000 in connection with the in connection with alleged irregu-

> Canton and Foodhow. NEW-PROJECTS.

GRAND COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL. [By courtery of the " Shoung Po."]

Peking, 28rd December.

I.The Reorganization of

2-Change in the titles of officials. 8-Increase of Duties and abolition of Lekin,

Telegrams.

"HONGEONG TELEGRAPH" BERVIOR.

PEKING LAW COLLEGE. ALLEGED ASSAULT BY JAPANESE PROFESSOR.

[By courtery of the "Shoung Po."]

Peking, 23rd December. A Japanese professor is alleged to have assaulted one of the students in the Peking I aw College

In consequence all the students became greatly excited and suggested that they should go on strike. NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

SCHEME BY THE MINISTRY OF WAR.

[By courtery of the "Shaung Po."]

Peking, 23rd December. The Ministry of War has submitted, for the approval of the Prince Regent, a scheme for the reorganization of the Navy, together with maps showing the different naval bases auggested.

INLAND NAVIGATION. A FRENCH APPLICATION. [By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 23rd December. The French Minister in Peking has preferred a request for a concession to run steamers on the inland

The Waiwupu has strongly oppos

THE PRINCE REGENT. CENSORS', MEDDLESOMENESS. [By coursesy of the "Shoung Po."]

Peking, 23rd December. Certain Cerisors have requested the Prince Regent to exercise his prerogative powers in the administration of the affairs of State and not to be too amiable lest his desire please might lead to trouble.

PLAGUE A'L SHANGHAI. INFECTED HONGKEW RATS CAPTURED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 24th December,

8.25 p.m. The sanitary officers of the Shang hai Municipal Council have discovered that plague exists among the rate in Hongkew.

Knergetic measures ale being taken under the direction of the Health Officer to stamp out the infection.

> THE SUGAR INDUSTRY: DIFFICULT CRISIS IN JAPAN.

Chronicle. As will be remembered, a few of Commissioners, and at the charges of the land's rate of discount remains 21 per cent, months ago the three sugar-refining companies funds of this Colony. The Report, which is while the private market rate of discount is 2} -the Dai Nippon, Yokobama, and Kobe Re- understood to be a voluminous one, and to per cent. fining-which were suffering from over-product contain a large mass of valuable evidence Bank Shares,-Hongkong and Shanghais tion agreed among themselves to restrict their from many witnesses of standing in the Colony output with the object of maintaining the mar and the Federated States, has been completed, \$845; are offering at latter figure. The Shangket. The action, however, proved c. little effect and as the telegrams tell us, its receipt in hal quotation is \$880, with an exchange of Tis. in that direction owing to the falling off London has been acknowledged by the Secreof consumption. For one month the total tary of State. It would seem that as the report is output of the three companies was restrict. now in the hands of His Majesty's Government ed only to 279,000 bags, the minimum agreed surely there can be no reason for withholding upon. Subsequently the output was to consent to its publication in the Colony, at duced every month to 30 or 40 per cent. whose expense and at the order of the Secretary below that minimum until the production of State the was limited to half the amount produced when the mills were in full operation. But the te- was framed and printed. The turning out of duction in the output has done little or nothing | the Report, as is a matter of common know. rapidly congested with stock. Accordingly, the Government Printing Office, which is the three companies have now agreed among generally fully occupied with current work. In themselves to suspend operations altogether order to print the report, fresh supplies of type for this and next month, expecting that the de had to be ordered from England, and even mand for the new year's trade will clear the then, so voluminous was the evidence that congested stock. In future the companies in had to be printed in sections and the chased the Nagoya Sugar Refining Company's that sufficient copies have been thrown off to this mill for the present, as its production will Colony and the Federated Malay States, Howonly add to the congestion. Furthermore, it ever that may be, it must surely be admitted has been decided to dismiss the clarks and operatives, Here, therefore, we get a glimpie Secretary of State refeatning from giving of the working of a Trust, the whole of its sanction to publication within this Colony of to pay the high prices demanded.

to the protective tariff the people are compelled The Toyo Sugar Refining Company's mill in permitting its publication hers, We do not Formosa, which was recently tried with sails. see the least necessity for that, It was quiries at 301. Shanghai Docks have been factory results, has been operating continuously not a Parliamentary Commission, nor was part to the north at Tia 73; a wire from the since them. The mill is capable of producing It asked for by any member of the House of porth informs me that an interim dividend of the white sarams quality, and its output for the Commons. If it had, the expense of pro- life at per share has been declared. Shange The Censor Kwong Chun-lam, in present year is estimated at about 160,000 ducing the Report should have come out of the hal and Hongkew Wharves have furthated a piculs, an increase of 30,000 to 40,000 picule Imperial exchequer. It is wrong in every way | good deal, in, he, north, closing at Tie, 135. on the first estimate. The sales office of the to submit this Colony to delay in being put in Mongaran and Kowloon Wharves sold and can ference to the raising of a loan for Jen-chun and Vicercy Cheung Sau company is to be established in Osaka shortly.

Landa Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Benaret New company is to be established in Osaka shortly.

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Landa Hongkong Buildings.—Hongkong B sugar-refining industry is suffering from over- cost, with copies of a report to which they have jure quoted "in. 117," Other stocks under this Persian (Paper) production. While the desline in consumption no claim and for which they have not asked. heading are unchanged, with no sales to report. is chiefly accounted for by the advance in One report telegraphed to Singapore states | Cottoh Mills. Shanghai quoteer Ewos Till | On the 7th library a trial was made of price consequent upon the increased tax that if the type has not been distributed the 175 ex the dividend of Tis. 5 per share paid on machinery at the new mill at Magi. Fortale on sugar, it is of course partly due to the Report will be printed in Singapore. But the general depression of trade. The Osaka greater part of the type of the Report has been Mainfold notes that the demand for sugar this distributed and the Secretary of State has been year has dropped to about 90,000,000 kin so informed. Clearly, if the Report has to be formed to annual consumption of members of finder annual consumption of members of sunday Manufacturing Companies.—Hong Sunday Manufacturing Compa year has dropped to about 90,000,000 kin so informed. Clearly, if the Report has to be Cottons have sellers at \$10, —half the amount of annual consumption reprinted for the consumption of members of Sundry Manufacturing Co noticed in the import of crude sugar from Java, Spottes-woods and Co. just like any other blue- Green Inland Gements sold at \$10.00 Mx. D. C. Sowers, representing the Carnegic having buyers at \$0.75 and sellers at \$0.00. Mx. D. C. Sowers, representing the Carnegic The Grand Council is determined falling off in the clement for sugar in Japan. to the bulk and the cost of setting the type the I can are offering at \$125, in other stocks where sugar-producers are satenished at the book. But Reuter yesterday stated that the the book at the book and the cost of setting the type the falling off in the cleaned for sugar in Japan. Opium Bius book will be printed in Singapore under this heading nothing has been done and sustained will be and counse are unchanged. affected the Government revenue, and the Cutand cannot be published till copies are receivtine careful in the examination of Imported appar.

Government has to go to the expense, at great the first and I constant the first term of the careful in the examination of Imported appar.

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THE OPIOM QUESTION. SINGATORE'S GRIEVANCE RONGROMS CRITICISED.

When we consider the general cronkedness with which the anti-opium egitation has been run, and the constitutional suppressio vori and suggestio fairs that provide the atmosphere in which the agitation thrives and batters, we are only right in watching the tactics of a Government that has made liself, the complaisant accomplice of the agitationists. In the main we may consider that the interests of Forige kopg are very similar to those of the spect of any interference with excise revenue is concerned. The only difference is that the proportion of revenue and the actual amount at stake in the Straits is very much greater than in Hongkong. "Still, there must be a general resemblance in the condition of the revenues and the dislocation of finance involved by any considerable degree of tampering with the revenues would affect the two Colonies in the same way, but the Straits in a relatively greater degree. It might occur to those in both Colopies who are able to appreciate the risks of disaster to which the Colonial finances are exposed that it would be well if there were some common knowledge of the conditions, and some common understanding arrived at as to defensive policy. Unfortunately, outside of the unofficial mambers of Council,

THE GENERAL COMMUNITY OF HONGKONG is unorganized and can be represented by the authoritative body. The China Association can hardly be expected to take up the patticularies grievances of Hongkong, and so far as the Crown Colony of Hongkong may deem that it Chine Association in London, it stands los far weaver position vis a vis the Colonial Office and the Imperial Government than if represented by a compact body such as Hongkoog Association with a powerful London branch, the latter with full authority to spereach the Colonial Office direct, as for a great many years the Straits Settiement Association, has dealt directly with the Colonial Office on behalf of the Association in the Colony. Now, as regards the present conjuncture in the common affairs of Hongkong and the Straits Settlements, i would seem to be of the utmost importance that for mutual protection and defence the two Colonies should be able to take counsel together and to join forces for the defence of revenues threatened by

A COMMON ENRMY. in obedience to an agitation of a specially in sidious character. Hongkong unfortunately cannot tell us her troubles and explain her difficulties, for the reason that it is the business of pobody in Hongkong to do so. We cannot inform Hongkong of the dangers threaten ing our financial welfare because there no authority in Hongkong competent receive communications although we here are provided with full authority communicate. The old problem bundle of sticks is well exemplified in the of the Eastern Crown Colonies, and if we a to judge of the probabilities, the Secretary State means to break the Hongkong stick first, and then make

THE HONGKONG CASEthe awful example that is to furnish the precedent for hostile action against the excise revenues of the Straits Settlements. If we were only upited by that simple machinery. that two or three hours could easily create, we should quadruple our resisting power to the dictation of any home clique that could place a Radical Government under its thomb.

Where, so it seems to us, the chief dangers lles to the two Eastern Crown Colonies 'is that there will apparently be no chance given to Hongkong to ascertain, for its own quidance, the results and recommendations of the Straits Opium Commission's Report before the Secretary of State shall have lesued bis

final directions regarding THE OPIUM REVENUE IN HORGEONS. opium consumption in its moral, physical, and sight Private Bill, the rate in Shanghai on the

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

to improve the market, which is still being ledge, has severely strained the resources of new at \$107. tend to produce each month only so much as type liberated for the printing of the followis required, instead of anticipating require- ing sections. We do not know how many ments. The three companies, which have pur- copies were printed, but it is to be presumed mill, have decided not to begin the working of satisfy the demand that would arise within the that there can be no walld reason; for the energies being directed to maintaining prices | Report produced at the expense of the Colony. instead of chaspening production, and owing The difficulty seems to be in this, that the Home Government want to lay the Report on the table of the Houses of Parliament before Careful in the examination of imported appar in order to prevent the evasion of Customs dalay, produce a second edition of the Report of the Commission of Customs dalay, produce a second edition of the Report of the Report of the Colony is to be till then denied access to although the second editional tule of this Colony is to be till then denied access to although the second editional tule of this Colony is to be till then denied access to although the second edition of the Report of th

THE WHOLE THING IS SO UNREASONABLE and so wantonly contemptates of the right of this Colony to decent treatment, that we must begin to look for a motive. We find that, taking into account the dubious tactics always connected with agitations of this kind, all this artificial delay may be explained in the most natural way in the world by assuming that the Secretary of State is determined to declers the policy of his Government, that is may the policy of the agitation, with reference to Hongkong before Hongkong shall, be able to fortify its defence by any knowledge of the terms of the report of the Straits Opium Commission. And when once Hongkong is " brokou," the Colonial Office will use its action as the needful precedent for dealing with the question as it presents itself in the Straits. is not a nice thing to have to impute motives of this kind. But unfortunately it is the only theory that fits the circumstauces. And then Government that her so glibly professed its patronage of se disingennous an agitation as that of the anti-Opium faction in England, will stick at little to show its complaisance with that sort of importunate influence .- Singapers Free Press.

THE C. P. R. NEW CONTRACT

LIVERPOOL-HONGKONG MAIL SERVICE

A contract, dated Oct. 12, 1908, between the Postmaster-General and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the conveyance of His Majesty's mails between Liverpool and Hong keng, and a Treasury Minute approving dated "Oct. 25) have been published as jouse of Commons paper.

This contract provides with certain modificaious for an extension for three years from The following variations have been made :-summer sesson, instead of once in four weeks. (2) The port of Shimidsu has been added to the places of call in Clause 6. (1) The periods of trausit (Clauses 7 and 8) are to be 818 hours by way of Quebec of Rimouski, 853 hours by way of Halifax or St. John, in lieu of 708 and 712 heurs respectively under the old contract." Clause at empowers the Postmaster General require-the provision of a Sea Post Office to enable the mails to be resorted on board ship.

The Canadian Government will contribute £25,000 a year towards this subsidy, instead sum of £20,000 a year payable by the Imperial Exchequer, in lieu of the former £45,000.

and threefourths of the crews of the mail ships employed on the Atlantic must be British sub ects, but this requirement does not apply to the mail steamers between Vancouver and Hoogkoog.

The company is put under an obligation, in regard to the conveyance of persons and goods by mail ships, to give no undue preference to traders or other customers or persons outside British possessions." During the continuance of the contract the Admiralty is to have power to putchase or charter the mail ships, and the company is prohibited from selling them of letting them upon hire without the consent of

Messrs, Erich Georg & Co. write in the weekly share list at noon on the 19th inst !-A very moderate business only has been done during the week under soview. Rates, on the whole, have not changed much, but the general tendency is rather weakish, only few stocks being in demand. .. The sterling demand It is to be presumed that never before in the rate of exchange on London closes, at is, Far East has so comprehensive an investiga. B 3/16d., while retes on Shanghai are Tis. 75% for tion taken place into the whole question of a Hank T./T. and Tis. 76t for a three days' financial aspects, as that which has recently for a three days' sight Private draft being Tla. The sugar-refining industry in Japan is past been carried out at the instance of the Secre- 754. Bar silver in London is quoted 22 3/16d.

> Marine Insurance Shares .- Unions sold at \$840, but more shares are offering. China Traders and Cantons are unchanged. North Chiune have improved to buyers at Tla. 105. Yangtezes can be placed at Stos.

Fire Insurance Shares, Hongkongs sold at \$330 and \$325, closing with sellers at the lower figure. Chines fetched \$106, and are wanted

Shipping Shares .- Hongkong, Canton and Macaon hold at \$29 and \$291; and have sellers at the higher rate. Shell Transport are quiet at 475 1 the London sate in 478, 9d. sellers. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged and without sales,

ced to buyers at \$505. Raubs sold at rates 1.4 months sight the lower figure. Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's shares can be placed at Tisi-174y the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ended with altimo. amounted to se, 550 tone of coal, and the sales

and Whampon Decks have sellers at Sor and Fenwicks at Sie; New Amny Docks have in-

for instant. Internationals are quoted at Tis. | belonging to the Oriental Sugar Resolu-60 buyers, Lacu Kung Mows Tis, 66 buyers, | Company, with a satisfactory result. A season and Snychest Tis, 170 buyers. Hongkong pelition of sugar cane exhibits was also bedd

pril 7, 1908, of the contract of Veb. 2, 1907. The 75. Houghoug Cottous are official at \$100 Clause , 2 provides for a service in such, direction once in every three weeks during the (5) . Cluases 39 to 43 fix the subsidy at £45,000. a year in lieu of £60,000.

£15,000 a year, as heretofore, leaving a net Other clauses provide that the master, officers,

the Admiralty and the Postmaster-General.

COMMERCIAL. WEEKLY SHARE LIST.

sing through a difficult crisis, reports the Jopan tary of State by a strong and independent body and Consols : 683 st/16d. The Bank of Eng-

Refineries.-There is a slightly better feeling for China Sugars, wampil demand, existing at 1 4 months sight L/Comments \$142 Lugons remain neglected at \$20. Mining Shares -- Charbonneges have advan-

during that period to stare tens. Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c .- Hongkons

WBERGY SHARB REPORT. Reviewing the share business for the marks. Messra, E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on alle.

To-morrow being Christman Day we tere quing our circular a day carlies. A very quiet week has passed and business:

we been very dull.
We take this opportunity of wishing all der. coastituents & Merry Xman Banks. Sales have been effected of House kong and Shanghai Banks, at \$845, and shere are sollers at this rate. The Londen quotation has not fluctuated and is still £82. Marine Insurances, Cantons have changed

unds at Style. Unions have bear sold at Steet Fire Insgrances.—China Fires assistends at

Shipping .- There are no changes to septet. and all stocks remain as last quetal. Refineries - China Sugara wee firm at \$1100. while Luxons are offering at \$20. Minitague Chinoso Buginessings have stange theises forther and there see theyers the

North averis, 174. Raubs are wishout business. and are quoted at \$9. Docks, Wharves and Godowns, -Kowlook | Wharle siter sales at 343, have further sellers, tiongroup and Whampos Docks have declined to Soo at which rate they are obtainedle. Shanghai Docks have advanced to The 73 and

Are ib demand. Hougkew Whats have lound

ba era at Tle 140.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings - Hosels Hotels have strangthened in response to a demand, to \$83 at which rate they are in further requests Contrat Stores are inquired for at the inproved rate of \$14%. Hongkong Lands and obtainable at Soz, and Humphress Metetes at Sil. Shanghal Lands are offering at The 290 Cotton Mills.—Ewos continue in demand, at Miscellaneous - Green Island Coments have weakened to Sago with reliefs. Light and Powers are quoted \$52. Dairy Parish af Tall and Electrics at \$182. Providente have buyen at Solar Langkata tempin steady at Tis 160 at which rate they are in demand and Sematres have jesproved slightly to Tie, 123 with buyers. |Kuchauga - The Bank's selling rate on Lon-

Dividends Payable Shanghal Dock and Engineering Co. interim of Tis. 21 payable on 4th Jonnary.

don is 1/84 on demand, The TLT rate on

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 24th Instant, Messes. Phiroraba B. Petit & Co. write:-

Our last circular was dated the tith inst. Owing to the approach of the Chinese New Year, and preparations for the closing of the year's accounts by natives prior to the customary exodus, into the interior for the festive season. business has slackened down to yery small; proportions. The tone of the market, however, must up! be measured by the volume of settlements, Stendiness has been the salient feature of the past night's market.

Low silver exchange renders operations on the part of importers, at current low ruling rates. upremunerative. As dealers' and importers' ideas regarding prices do not coincide, it is reported natives bare been trading between thomselves, stocks of former purchases change ing hands in consequence. " Miles

The slow clearances are not eurprising les this time of year. Prospects are promising, and there is every confidence that market will be re-vitalised as spon as the Chinese New Year holidays are over. The pravailing conditionism both financial and political-in the consuming districts hold out every hope that inquiries will lead to a further stimulation in the yarn market as soon as business resumes its normal course. No. : 201 .- Selected threads found buyers at

an advance of St per bale, No. 16s .- Only one Mill's Yarn changed hands at reported price. Nos. 121. and tot.—Trifle basiness reported. Nos. Se. and 6s .- Nothing doing.

Market clases steady. Sales :-- 5,000 bales of No.; 1044.50 bales of No. 124, 100 bales of No. 164, and 600 bales of No, 2014 in all about 850 hales. Arrivals :- Per steamers Dalla, Tolomi, Mary Kutsang, Persia, Laisang, Veterofu Maru and

A. Apear of about 9,000 bales. Unsold Stock :-- About 17,000 bales. Uncleared Stock :- About 14,000 bales Exchange :-- We quote to-day as follows ;--India . T. T. at Rs. 1272 per cent, Demand , 1276 H. T. T. T. Sh. 1.8 5/64 m3 Demand , , 1.8 d.m.

Shanghai...... "Tis, 75 mistoo.

	TO-DAYM, EXCHANG	
3	Selling.	
Landon	-Bank T.T.	
: Do.	demand	
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Tava-3	ank T.T.	4. 400 410 100 000 000

10 days, sight San Francisco.& Man North 496 6 enouthe sight

ANOTATIONS.

To-day's ductations are as follows !-

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A LABUAN stamp, first issue, 12c., carmine, unused, fetched La ut to the few days ago.

WE are informed by the Colonial Secretary that Bangkok has been declared to be an infected

WE have received a wall calendar for 1909 from Mesers. Siemssen & Co. as agents for the Sun Fire Office of London.

MR. S. B. C. Ross has been appointed District Officer in the New Territories with effect from the 6th instant, until further notice.

PAYMASTER A. Taylor has been posted for duty with the cruiser Kent. He joins the Kent from the scout Skirmisker of the Channel fleet.

A PAPER on "Railway Development in China," by Arthur John Barry, M.Inst.C.E., will be road before the Society of Arts after Christmas. THE! Waiwupu has obtained the Imperial Seal for affixing to the letters addressed to the

IT is reported at Macao that the Portuguese steel gunboat Patria left Singapore last Sunday for Macao and is expected there in the course of next week.

COLONEL W. G. Bedford, C.M.G., M.B., Army Medical Service, on promotion to tank; has been appointed administrative medical officer at Hongkong.

THE King's Exequatur empowering Mr. Joho Joaquim Leiria to act as Consul for Portugal and for Brazil at Hoogkong has received His Majesty's signature.

THE master of the German s.s. Loosok reports passing a sunken derelict junk with her fore and aft ends above water. Position:-About latitude 20° 35 N. Longitude 113° 8' E.

H18. Excellency the Governor has been pleas. ed to re-appoint the Honourable Mr. Hewett to be a member of the Santary Board for a further period of three years, with effect from the 19th instant. THE Waiwupu has requested the Viceroy of

the Min-Che provinces to instruct his subordcoolies for emigration abroad without due authority from the Waiwupu. MR. T. H. G. Brayfield has been appointed

engineer surveyor for private steam-launches

under 60 tons, in place of Mr. H. L. Fletcher absent from the Colony, during the absence on leave of Mr. H. F. Carmichael. THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld., announces that the total output of the

December 5, 1908, amounted to 31,971.53 tons and the sales during the period to 38,042.85

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. J. F. Boulton to be second, assistant Director of Public Works, with effect from the 13th November,

IT is reported that under justructions of the Grand Council the Ministry of Finance will appoint a first-class secretary of that department to the post of Financial Commissioner Lhassa

and Governors of the three Manchurian provinces are conferring as to the desirability of obtaining a loun of Tls: 600,000 from a Russian Bank, to be used in Land Reclamation work in Mongolia.

HIS Majesty the King has not been advised to exettise his power of disallowance, with respect . to Ordinance No. 8 of 19.8, entitled an Ordinance to extend the provisions of The Liquor Ordinance, 1898 and to provide for the grant of browery licenses.

IT has been decided by the Prince Regent and his Advisors that there shall be no change made to the place for granting audience to Foreign Officials and the Wenhua Thronehail shall continue to be the Audience Hall as during the reign of the late Emperor.

JAPAN is continuing to import cats. Recently some thousands were sent from America. Last month 5,000 cats were embarked at Hamburg for Yokohama. It is said 15,000 are on order to be exported from Germany to Japan to keep down the too numerous rats in the country.

MR. Edmund Hamilton Sharp, 79, of Parliament-hill, Hampstead, formerly of Hongkong and Kyoto, Japan (£20 to his old servant, Ann Jones; and, subject to numerous legacies and bequests, his estate to the Boys' and Girls' Refuges, Strangeways, Manchester), left £11,406.

THE Ministry of Finance has instructed al Goyernment Banks to stop issuing dollar notes and silver dollars as it is the intention of that Ministry to issue one-tael notes and silver coins' of the same denomination beginning with the first month of next Chinese year (January: February, 1909).

THE Ministry of War has obtained the approval of the Prince Regent to select a large number of the pupils of the Nobles' School in Peking to rend to Great-Britain, the United States, Germany and Japan for the purposes of studying at the Naval Academies of those countries and afterwards entering their navies as sub-lieutenants for two or three years.

A HOME paper says :- Mr. R. Laidlaw, M. P. for East Renfrewshire, who is one of the British delegates to the luternational Commission on Opium at Shanghai on New Year's Day, is leaving England on Dec. 5, and hopes to reach hist destination in the course of sixteen days. The hon, member, who will be accompanied by his daughter, goes by the Trans-Siberian and South Manchurian Railways to Dalny, and by steamer to Shanghai.

His Imperial Highness the Prince Regent, who so far has had no official seal, issued orders the other day to the Ministry of Rites to have one made for him without delay. The seal is to be a gold one two inches square with the following six characters in Ancient Chin-Regent. When one considers that all official seals under the present dynasty invariably contain Manchu characters in addition to the usual Chinese, the report that the Prince Regent's new Seal only contains Chinese characters; seems to be significant of his Highness's

THIS afternoon (19th inst.), in dirty weather, Hongkongites were treated to a fine specimen of America's national game-baseball. Despite of people turned out to witness the playthat if will be as well attended-if not better- other consecutive runs, and I think these results

A MARRIAGE has been arranged, and will take place early in January, between Mr. Newton J. Stabb, of Hongkong, and Ethel Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. A. M. Townsond, manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, London.

CONTEMPORANEOUSLY with the heavy increase in Opium duties, the license fees for the manufacture of chands, its retail sale, and for keeping a smoking shop, have been greatly enhanced as from the beginning of next year, says the Perak Pioneer.

AT a council meeting of the Royal Society of Arts, Mr. James Black Love, M.A., Tientsin, Mr. Quab Beng Kee, Penang, Mr. Charles H. Smith, Philippine Judiciary, Manila, the Hon. Tan Jiak Kim, Singapore, Mr. Un Yuan Hau, n A., and Mr. Young Hee, M.R.S.I., Hongkong, were elected members.

sovereigns and Presidents of the various Treaty Powers in the name of H. I. M. Hauen T'ang formally informing them of his accession to the Dragon Throne as the successor of the late Emperor Kuang Hsu.

MR. R. Laidlaw, M. P. for East Renfreswshire, who is one of the British delegates to the International Commission on Opium at Shanghai had intended leaving England on Dec: 5, and hoped to reach his destination in the course of sixteen days. In consequence of the postponement of the meeting of the Commission, he has deferred his departure till January.

IN Sydney there is a Chinese benevolent society called "Hung Fook Tong," and it recently built to almshouses. There being considerably more applicants than almshouses, 'the committee decided that the successful would be those who made the largest contributions to the funds of the society. The sums thus handed over ranged from £21 tos. to £37 5s.

HONGKONG will be glad to learn that Lady Lugard arrived in the Colony shortly before four inates to prevent all attempts at enrolling o'clock yesterday afternoon by the English Mail Anage. It is a happy coincidence that Lady Lugard should land here on Christmas Eve and we take this opportunity of extending to her our best wishes for a pleasant sojourn in the Colony after her protracted absence in the homeland.

A very nosty accident was witnessed in Queen's Road Central, outside the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle Hotel, last Saturday afternoon. A young Chinaman was seen walking along the footpath. and while attempting to cross the road, tripped Company's three mines for the week ending over the bridge, and fell. He struck his head vi lently in the gutter and was rendered unconscious. He was taken to hospital with a serious wound on the top of the head.

UNDER date the 17th inst., Messrs, Wheelock & Co. write from Shanghai :-- Exchange being all in favour of exporters it is not surprising to find our homeward freight market still as active as ever, especially to America via Sucz Canal where some record shipments have been going forward recently. Coastwise :- Here rates have certainly started on the downward grade and the outlook for the next two or three months is not at all promising; prospects are no better in in Tibet to assist the Imperial Resident at the South from latest advices and we are afraid it will be a case of " laying up " for some ships,

IT is reported from Mukden that the Viceroy, COLONEL W. G. Bedford, C.M.G. Army Medichi Service, who, as has been already announced, has been appointed Administrative Medical Officer at Hongkong, is a medico of much experience and a great expert in tropical diseases. He has spent well-nigh twentynine years in the medical branch of the army. and has the experience of the South African War, 1899-1900, when he was staff officer to the P.M.O. during the campaign of that period in the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, and Cape Colony (mentioned in despatches, Queen's medal with three clasps, and C. M. G.).

> A CRNSOR named Shih Lü-chin has presented a memorial to the Prince-Regent protesting against the custom of high. Ministers of state and others being required to remain on their. knees when before the throne. The contention is that when the first Emperors sat on the throne high Ministers of state were allowed to be seated in the Presence and that it was only later on that they were required to keep kneeling when having audience of the Emperor. Furthermore all Crown Ministers are generally men advanced in years whom it would be but gracious on the part of the Ruler to excuse from keeping the kneeling posture, sometimes, perhaps, for hours.

WR have received the caste for "The Silver King," which the Kowloon Dock A.D.C. intend producing on Saturday, January 9th, and Monday, January 11th :-

"THE SILVER KING." Theld in truth with him who sings. On one clear harp of divers tones That men may rise on stepping stones. Of their dead selves to higher things.

Sain Baxter Mr. D. Keith Tubbe Landlord "Wheatsheaf" Mr. G. Beck

Ciasy Denver Nelly's Children ... {Edith Cicliand Colin Logan

A Shanghai Mercury correspondent writes: " I was inveigled a week or two ago in buying a lottery ticket for the Kiangnan Lottery, and the drawing having taken place on the 8th inst. a day or two ago I received a printed sheet showing the result. Of course, I ese writing engraved on it, namely "Chien-kuo got nothing, but in carelessly "glancing Seh-cheng Wang-chang," or Seal of the Prince down the list I was struck by the fact that some thousand appeared to be luckier than others. Closer examination of the winning numbers brought out some facts that seemed to be absolutely opposed to the law of chances, and as the result of my analysis is somewhat remarkable I believe they may be of interest to your readers, some of whom may occasionally patronise the lot-It was announced that there were 4,040 prizes and 30,000 chances, about 140 in every thousand. No. 4,025 won the first the inclemency of the weather, a large number prize of \$40,000, and numbers from 3,975 to 4,075, all were drawn for prizes, There were for it is not often that Hongkong has the two second prizes of \$10,000 each; one was won opportunity of watching the game of baseball by 3,762 and Nos. 3,452 to 3,752 consecutively -and everyone present pronounced the show a all won prizes. The other second prize was great success. The professionals were veritable | won- by 19,356 and Nos. 19,326 to 19,386 miants and the local team were rather consecutively won prizes, There were two handicapped by the superior "business" of third prizes of \$5,000 each. One was won by their formidable, opponents. It is rather un- No. 1,202 and Nos. from 1,182 to 1,232 conse dortunate that rainy weather marred the cutively were awarded prizes. The other \$5,000 proceedings, but if those in charge can see their went to No. 1,809 and Nos. 1,789 to 1,829 conway to arrange a second match, we feel sure secutively received prizes. There ware no

are so remarkable as to be worth noting.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Mosars. E. S.	Supplied by Mesus. B. S. Kanooris & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 51								
STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	YALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PE	AT WORKING	LAST DIVIDEND,	APPROXIMATE PRESENT QUOTATION, BARRO ON FAST TRACES DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.	
ongkong & Shanghal Banking Corporation	130,000	\$125,	\$125	{	\$2,005,774	[Interim of £2 for first half year @ ex]	5 ‡ %	\$\$845 sellers London £82	
ational Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$150,000)	510,213	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1903		Sto.	
MARINE, INSURANCES.	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,560,000 \$232,757	2010	\$14 for 1907	7 1 %	\$105	
orth China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	[®] £15	£s	125,000 } (125,000 } Tis. 150,000 } Tis. 303,747	Tls, 160,512	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	9 0 1	Tis. rot	
nion Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	(Tis. 118,277) (\$3,000,000) (\$302,478)	32,506,01X	[Final of Srs making \$45 for 1906 and]	u .		
	100 years			\$302,478 } \$129,695 \$727,649 } \$1,000,000 }	10	linterim of \$30 for 1907	58 X	\$835 sales	
FIRE INSURANCES.	19,000	Stoo /	\$5a \$2a	\$199,032} \$85,157)	\$591,769 \$372,432	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1906		St65 buyers	
onghong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	1 40	Saço	\$50	\$1,333,941	\$428,027	\$27 for 1906		Sizs sa and s.	
ouglas Steamship Company, Limited	30,000 20,000	\$25 \$50	\$25 \$50	\$7,000 \$254,638 \$99,067	51,035 /(il.	So or 1976		\$14 \$33	
ongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld	80,000	515	\$15	\$250,000 \$587,500 \$81,766	5:17,755	S14 for first builty ear ending 30.0.08	81 X	Supi sellers	
do China Steam Navigation Co., Ld. (Preferred) } Do. do. (Deferred) } anghal Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	60,000 60,000 200,000 }	45	£5	{ £17,655 } { £10,000 } £240,000 }	£13,755	[6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @] ex 1/9 11/16==\$3, 154	58 X	{ } ;;	
Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	100,000)	Tin 50°	Tis. 50 Li Sio	[11, 75,000 [1720,000] [200,000]			1	{Tis. 48 sellers Tis. 51 buyers 47	
itar" Ferry Compuny, Limited) to,000	\$10 \$10	\$5	\$ 5,000 } \$47,221 } [Tis. (8,37) Tis. 42,479]		\$1,00 } 1.5 / 2.5 (1) 1.7 (1)	CHA	ing ing	
ku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	A	Tls. 50	9". 141	Tis, 8,000 Tis, 12,000	Tls. 6,859	Flust of Tla. 14 making Tla, 3 for 1907	. 11 X	?ls, 45	
ina Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000 7,000	Stoo	Stee	\$52,538 \$56,848	Dr. \$279,371 Dr. \$235,232	48 for year combined the same and the same a		Straj	
MINING.	7,000	Tie, go	A 18, 50	112. 100,000	Tis. 9,173	3 11 31 61 111 71 71 71 31	, ***	Sto sellers Tis. 822 buyers	
inesa Engineering and Mining Company, Ld., b Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	T50,000	41	Li tifico Li	£17;000}	L11,556 Dr. £2,191	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08	5	Tis. 17% sales	
DOCKS, WGAZVKS & GUDOWNS.				£4,871	Al eya ya	20.73.00.10000101	•••	\$9	
ongkong & Kowloop Whart and Godown Co., Ld	18,000	525 °	\$25 \$50	\$53,000	\$3,726	K1:75	7 3.9	in the second se	
ingkong and Whampon Dock Company, Ld	\$0,000	5;0 \$50	\$50 \$50	\$26,805 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$200,000	S8,556	Interim of \$4 for account 1903	84 7	\$43 \$90 sellers	
anghal Dock and Engineering Co., Ld		Tis, 100 Tis, 100	11s, 100	Tis. 697,257 } Tis. 75,000 }	Tls. 33,742	year ending 10,4.08	64 %	Tis. 75 buyers	
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.	7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	i an i	141	Tis. 125,000)	Tis. 12,526	Interim of Tis, 4 tor account 1908	6 X	Tis. 240 sales	
tor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai) niral Stores, Limited	20'188 20'000	Tis, 100 \$25 \$15	71s, 200 \$25 \$15	Tik. 25,000 30,000 \$1,000	Tis. 6.532 Dr. 51,200 :9,178	Tis, 6 for 1907		Tis. 100 Stod S140 buyers	
ongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000 50,000	\$100	\$100	\$548,975} \$21,000 \$250,000	514,636 536,915	Interim of \$3 for account 1908	7± %	S\$3 buyers \$62 sellers	
whom Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000 78,000	\$10 \$50	510 530	\$30,000 \$30,000 nund	54,621 3653	Ste for 1907	71 X		
anghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000 12,500	Tis, 50 S50	Tis, 50 : \$50	Tls. 1,523,045. Tls. 170,000	Tis, 207,547	Interim of Tis. 3 for account 1908		Tis, see sallers	
COTTON MILLS: To Cotion Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld Togkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dysing 1	15,000	Tis. 50 Sto	T'ls, 50	Tis. 150,000 Tis. 45,939	4	Tia. 5 for woar in ed 31,10,1908	6 X		
on-king-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	10,000	Tis, 75	Tls. 75	Tis. 175 000	19,553 Tls. 8,372.,	Tis. 6 for year borded 20.9.66 (8 %)		Tie 65	
Mincritantous.	2,006	£)4. 500	Tls. 500	Tist adjasy	Tis, 6,308 . Tis, 50,562	Tis, 30 for 190)	000 000	Tla. 671 Tla. 280	
ina-Bornes Company, Limited	8,604 60,000 50,000	12/6 512 S10}	12/6 \$12 510}	£1;500 \$25,000	∠648 Nil,	t 10j-p*** hars for 1007=\$1.037		\$8 buyers \$12	
Do. Do. special shares,	135,000 135,000	\$1 } Sin	Sto	\$120,000 \$120,000	61,13B 23,593	Bo'cents for 1907	81 X	Sof buyers	
Price & Company, Limited	400,000 12,000	\$76 \$10 \$10	\$10 \$10	\$8,000 } \$12,000 \$5,000	\$48 \$5.078 \$251	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	10 7	Sogn sellers Six bayers	
ongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$20 510	\$20	2180,000	\$8,957 \$9,321	52 for year anding 28.2.08	8 6 X	Siol buyers	
eatschappij tot Milm-, Bosch-en Lundbouwer-) ploitatie in Langkat, Limited	50,000 25,000	\$10 \$10 \$1. 100	\$25 \$10 Gs. 100	2120,000 nona Tis. 547,500?	\$4,578 \$8,191	Interim of \$4 for account 1008	84 % 8 %	\$225 sellers 1 \$24	
ak Tramways Company (now)		\$10 \$10 \$10	Sto} Sr S	Tis. 27,003 \$ \$5,000 none	\$7,471	So cents on tully paid shares and 6 cents on		Tia. 860 buyers	
enghal-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	10 mg 100	35/4	l'is. 50	Tis. 200,000	Tin. 6,603	Final of Tis, 4 making Tis, 71 for 1907	61 %	Tis. 117 bayers	
anghal Waterworks Company, Limited	6,000	£20,	£20 \$25	Tis. 190,000 none	Th. 8,493 Th. 58,222	Final of Tis. 9 making to all Tis. 14 for 1905 Final of 37/6 making 52/6 for 1907		Tis. 123 buyers	
entsin Waterworks Company, Limited	20,000 2,000 50,000	\$ 5 Fla; 100	3 5 Tis. 100	,	Dr. \$90,237 1236 Tis. 201	None 40 cents for year chiding 31 8	8 z	Survey Contract Contr	
Start Antonion Chilanus I A vision Tantonia	10,000	\$10 \$10	\$10 \$4	\$25,000	\$212 \$1,360	fo cents for 1907	5 X	Sio Sio Signatura Sio	
illam Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$100,000 \$25,000 8008	\$6,438 \$3.95	Interim of 30 cents s/c 1908	61 Z	Soj buyera	
There shame are another as helf of the							No state		
*These shares are entitled to half of the profits						DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:— Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ld			
								que January, 100	
	eren en Til de en Til de ford Allerer	gt kan e Skala ekspirk en skala						canalistical	